

# OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

#### **TAXATION DIVISION**

# COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS CASE LIST AND SUMMARY OF ISSUES

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#### Franchise Tax

#### **3 Beall Brothers 3, Inc. v. Rylander, et al.** Cause #GN002755

AG Case #001354026

Franchise Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Christine Monzingo

Filed: 09/15/00

Period: 1993 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman
Amount: \$265.995 Ray Langenberg

Ray Langenberg
Scott Douglass &

Scott, Douglass & McConnico

Austin

Issue: Whether the franchise tax was applied retroactively to deny Plaintiff a business loss carry forward. Whether the officer and director compensation add-back is unconstitutional.

Status: Answer filed.

#### American General Corp. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN003178

AG Case #001375419

Franchise Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Christine Monzingo

Filed: 10/31/00

Period: 1994-1998 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Amount: \$2,131,754.78 Ray Langenberg

Ray Langenberg Eric Hagenswold Scott, Douglass & McConnico

Austin

Issue: Whether intercorporate receipts should be excluded from gross receipts. Whether certain obligations were debts. Whether the Comptroller's application of the debt deduction statute violates equal protection. Whether an indirect tax on post-retirement benefits violates ERISA and the supremacy doctrine. Whether interest should be waived. Whether the assessment violates equal taxation, equal protection, due process, commerce clause, the Tax Code, the Administrative Code, was in excess of statutory authority, was made through unlawful procedure, and was arbitrary and capricious.

Status: Answer filed.

Anderson-Clayton Bros. Funeral Home, Inc.; Restland of Dallas, Inc.; Restland Funeral Home; Singing Hills Funeral Homes, Inc.; Laurel Land Funeral Home of Fort Worth, Inc.; Blue Bonnet Hills Funeral Home, Inc.; and Blue Bonnet Hills Memorial Park, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-12183

AG Case #99-1227646

Franchise Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Filed: 10/18/99

Period: 1993-1996 Plaintiff's Counsel: Jan Soifer

Amount: \$407,212.91 Locke, Liddell & Sapp

\$107,861.97 Austin

Issue: Whether income earned on Plaintiff's trust accounts for prepaid funeral services gives rise to

Texas gross receipts.

Status: Plaintiff filed motion to retain 08/07/01. Discovery in progress. Motion to Retain granted

06/03/02. Trial set 05/05/03.

## Bank of Texas, National Association (Formerly Swiss Avenue State Bank) v. Comptroller of Public Accounts Cause #GN103976

AG Case #01535283

Franchise Tax; Protest & Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 12/03/01 Plaintiff's Counsel: J. Lawrence Temple
Period: 2001 Temple & Temple

Amount: \$218,056,52 Austin

Frederic Dorwart Tulsa, Oklahoma

Issue: Whether conversion from a state bank to a national bank is a merger for franchise tax purposes. Whether the national bank must file an initial return. Whether treatment of the conversion as a merger is preempted by federal law.

Status: Answer filed.

#### Central Telephone Co. of Texas and United Telephone Co. of Texas v. Rylander,

**et al.** Cause #GN100332 AG Case #011409646

Franchise Tax; Protest & Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Refund

Filed: 02/01/01 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Period: 1988-1994 Ray Langenberg Scott, Douglass &

\$204,616.25 McConnico
Austin

Issue: Whether inclusion of access charges in Texas' gross receipts violates Comptroller rules on franchise tax treatment of interstate telephone receipts. Whether inclusion of the charges violates equal protection.

Status: Answer filed.

#### Delco Electronics Corp. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #97-12045

AG Case #97-843052

Franchise Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Christine Monzingo

Filed: 10/22/97

Period: 1992-1995 Plaintiff's Counsel: L.G. Skip Smith

Amount: \$536,478 Clark, Thomas & Winters

Austin

Issue: Whether interest, rental and royalty income earned by Plaintiff should not be included in income because it was derived from discrete business enterprises that served an investment, rather than an operational function, and the activities producing the income were not part of the unitary business conducted by Plaintiff in Texas.

Status: Settlement in progress.

#### First Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN200229

AG Case #021556980

Franchise Tax; Refund & Asst. AAG Assigned: Christine Monzingo

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 01/24/02 Plaintiff's Counsel: James F. Martens
Period: 1996 through 1999 Christina A. Mondrik
Amount: \$1,919,109 Stahl, Martens & Bernal

Austin

Issue: Whether the throwback rule is unconstitutional and violates P.L. 86-272. Whether apportionment under the throwback rule, when compared to a separate accounting method, creates such a gross disparity in taxable income as to be unconstitutional. Plaintiff also seeks declaratory judgment and attorneys' fees.

Status: Answer filed.

Harcourt Brace Jovanovich Legal & Professional, HBJ Farm Publications, Psychological Corp., Drake Beam Morin, Inc. and Holt Rinehart & Winston, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #97-03795

AG Case #97-706290

Franchise Tax; Protest and Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 03/28/97 Plaintiff's Counsel: Jess M. Irwin, III
Period: 1987-1990 Steven D. Moore
1989-1991 Jackson & Walker

1988-1991 Austin

Amount: \$243,469 (total of

all)

Issue: Whether inter-company payable account obligations should have been excluded from debt for purposes of calculating franchise tax. Attorneys fees.

Status: Plaintiffs presented written settlement offer.

## Holt Rinehart & Winston, Inc., Drake Beam Morin, Inc., Harcourt Professional Education Group, Inc., The Psychological Corp. v. Rylander, et al. Cause

#GN100985

AG Case #011433455

Franchise Tax; Protest & Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 04/03/01 Plaintiff's Counsel: Steven D. Moore Period: 1992-1994 Jackson Walker LLP

Amount: \$512,387.46 Austin

Issue: Whether intercompany payable account obligations should have been excluded from debt for purposes of calculating franchise tax. Attorneys fees.

Status: Answer filed.

#### Inova Diagnostics, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN201829

AG Case #021626213

Franchise Tax; Refund & Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 06/03/02 Plaintiff's Counsel: Gilbert J. Bernal, Jr.
Period: 1997 & 1998 Christina A. Mondrik

Amount: \$275 Stahl, Martens & Bernal

\$347 Austin

Issue: Whether taxpayer has nexus with Texas. Whether the capital- based franchise tax is measured by net income for purposes of P.L. 86-272. Whether the Comptroller wrongfully forfeited plaintiff's corporate privileges. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

Status: Answer filed.

#### Kerrville Telephone Co., The v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN00058

AG Case #001258219

Franchise Tax; Protest & Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Refund

Filed: 01/05/00 Plaintiff's Counsel: C. Morris Davis

Period: 1992-1995 McGinnis, Lochridge &

Amount: \$48,437.57 Kilgore

Austin

Issue: Whether receipts from access and billing charges to inter-exchange carriers and from subscriber line charges are Texas gross receipts. Whether the Comptroller failed to follow Rule 3.357 (e)(39), thereby denying due process to Plaintiff.

Status: Inactive.

#### May Department Stores Co., The v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-06899

AG Case #98-983559

Franchise Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Christine Monzingo

Filed: 06/26/98

Period: 1991-1995 Plaintiff's Counsel: L.G. Skip Smith

Amount: \$207,375 Clark, Thomas & Winters

Austin

Issue: Whether Plaintiff's officer and director compensation should be added to taxable surplus for franchise tax purposes.

Status: Retained on suspense docket. See *Palais Royal & 3 Beall Brothers 3, Inc. v. Comptroller*.

### Network Security Acceptance Corp., as Successor in Interest to Network Security Corp. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #95-15698

AG Case #96-437029

Franchise Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Christine Monzingo

Filed: 12/21/95

Period: 1986-1987 Plaintiff's Counsel: David E. Cowling

Amount: \$355,619 Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue

Dallas

Issue: Whether acquisition debt incurred by an acquiring corporation may be pushed down to the acquired corporation to reduce taxable capital.

Status: Discovery in progress.

#### North Star Steel Texas, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-12019

AG Case #98-1071152

Franchise Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Christine Monzingo

Filed: 10/23/98

Period: 1992-1995 Plaintiff's Counsel: James F. Martens Amount: \$725,830 Gilbert J. Bernal, Jr.

Stahl, Martens & Bernal

Austin

Issue: Whether Comptroller properly interpreted the throw-back rule for purposes of apportioning

gross receipts.

Status: Inactive.

#### Palais Royal, Inc. and 3 Beall Brothers 3, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #96-03719

03-01-00224-CV AG Case #96-495867

Franchise Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Christine Monzingo

Filed: 04/01/96

Period: 1992-1993 (3 Beall) Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman 1992-1995 (Palais) Ray Langenberg Amount: \$700,974 Scott, Douglass &

McConnico Austin

Issue: Whether the 1991 Franchise Tax Statute is unconstitutionally retroactive as applied to the 1992 report year of a fiscal year taxpayer. Whether the officer-director add-back statute is unconstitutional under equal taxation provisions. Whether the implementation of the earned surplus tax component violated due process.

Status: Trial court granted Plaintiffs' motion for summary judgment on the due process, retroactivity, and equal tax issues, and granted the State's Motion for Summary Judgment on the officer-director compensation add-back issue. Judgment signed 01/29/01. Appellants' brief filed 06/22/01. Appellees' brief filed 10/05/01. Oral argument held 10/17/01. Appellees' post-submission brief filed 10/29/01. Appellants' post-submission brief filed. Appellees' post-submission letter brief filed.

#### Pfizer, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN001781

AG Case #001323641

Franchise Tax: Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Christine Monzingo

Filed: 06/20/00

Period: 1994-1996 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Amount: \$309,078

Scott, Douglass &

**McConnico** Austin

Issue: Whether franchise tax is due on gain from sale of an operating division that was capitalized, incorporated and sold. Whether receipts from sales of drugs shipped from outside Texas should be included in Texas' earned surplus gross receipts. Whether the throw-back rule applies to Michigan sales. Whether tax on income earned before the effective date of the earned surplus component is unconstitutional. Whether all penalty and interest should be waived.

Status: Cross-motions for summary judgment denied 02/06/02. Non-jury trial set 10/14/02.

#### Randall's Food & Drugs, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN003174

AG Case #001375450

Franchise Tax; Protest & Asst. AAG Assigned: Christine Monzingo

Refund

Filed: 10/31/00 Plaintiff's Counsel: Jasper G. Taylor, III Period: 1994-1997 Jay M. Chadha Fulbright & Jaworski Amount: \$4,006,942.39

Houston

Issue: Whether the Comptroller's Rule 3.555(g)(3), which denies a carry forward of business losses of a merged corporation by the surviving corporation, is an unconstitutional retroactive law or a violation of Texas and Delaware statutes on mergers. Whether compensation of officers and directors should have been added back to Plaintiff's income and whether doing so violates constitutional equal taxation requirements. Whether some receipts were incorrectly treated as Texas receipts. Whether surplus calculation by the Comptroller should have excluded increases from push-down accounting. Whether failure to waive penalties and interest was arbitrary. Whether the audit has calculation errors. Whether the Comptroller's determination and decision violate equal protection, due process, and other constitutional provisions.

Status: Answer filed.

#### Reliant Energy Corp. (formerly Houston Industries, Inc.) v. Rylander, et al. Cause

#GN103935

AG Case #011532348

Franchise Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Christine Monzingo

Filed: 11/28/01

Period: 1998 Plaintiff's Counsel: L.G. Skip Smith Amount: \$2,581,013.52 David H. Gilliland

Clark, Thomas & Winters

Austin

Issue: Whether plaintiff may use business loss carry-forward from non-surviving corporation in merger to reduce its franchise tax.

Status: Answer filed.

### Reliant Energy Gas Transmission Co., f/k/a Noram Gas Transmission Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-08127

AG Case #99-1187675

Franchise Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Filed: 07/15/99

Period: 1996 Plaintiff's Counsel: L.G. Skip Smith Amount: \$163,758.10 David H. Gilliland

Clark, Thomas & Winters

Austin

Issue: Whether a business loss carry-forward of a merged corporation may be used to reduce the surviving corporation's franchise tax.

Status: Discovery in progress.

#### Saudi Refining, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-04227

AG Case #99-1155755

Franchise Tax; Refund & Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Protest

Filed: 04/09/99 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ira A. Lipstet

Period: 1994-1995 Therese L. Surprenant Amount: \$502.834.84 & Jenkens & Gilchrist

\$190,000.58 Austin

Issue: Whether Plaintiff may take franchise tax credit as a joint venture partner for equipment sales taxes paid by the joint venture.

Status: Motion to retain granted. Order waiving mediation granted 05/29/01. Discovery in progress. Trial set 09/16/02.

#### Sergeant Enterprises, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #96-15475

AG Case #97-652613

Franchise Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Filed: 12/31/96

Period: 1995 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Amount: \$42,968 Ray Langenberg

Scott, Douglass & McConnico

Austin

Issue: Whether a business loss carry-forward can be transferred to another corporation by way of merger and whether Rule 3.555 prohibiting such a transfer is applicable to audit periods before the effective date of the rule.

Status: Discovery in progress.

#### Shaklee Corp. d/b/a Shaklee U.S., Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #96-06767

AG Case #96-537466

Franchise Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Christine Monzingo

Filed: 6/10/96

Period: 1992-1993 Plaintiff's Counsel: David E. Cowling
Amount: \$10,261 Charolette Noel

Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue

Dallas

Issue: Whether Plaintiff's officer and director compensation should be added to taxable surplus for franchise tax purposes.

Status: Cross-motions for summary judgment to be filed.

#### **Southern Union Co. v. Rylander, et al.** Cause #GN003692

AG Case #011399409

Franchise Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Christine Monzingo

Filed: 12/29/00

Period: 1994 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Amount: \$549,983 Ray Langenberg

Ray Langenberg
Eric Hagenswold
Scott, Douglass &
McConnico

Austin

Issue: Whether Plaintiff was required to use historical cost as the basis of assets of an acquired corporation. Whether post-retirement benefit obligations are debt. Whether disallowing deduction of post-retirement benefits violates equal protection. Whether Plaintiff may use another method to account for depreciation.

Status: Partial settlement.

#### Specialty Retailers, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN100415

AG Case #011410529

Franchise Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Christine Monzingo

Filed: 02/08/01

Period: 1992-1996 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Amount: \$34,167 Ray Langenberg

Ray Langenberg Scott, Douglass & McConnico

Austin

Issue: Whether Plaintiff is entitled to a refund for a business loss carryforward.

Status: Answer filed.

#### **Specialty Retailers, Inc. v. Rylander, et al.** Cause #GN102549

AG Case #011479979

Franchise Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Scott Simmons

Filed: 08/13/01

Period: 1997 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Amount: \$99,182 Ray Langenberg

Ray Langenberg Scott, Douglass &

McConnico

Austin

Issue: Whether the officer add-back provision violates equal and uniform taxation, equal protection, or due process.

Status: Answer filed.

#### Specialty Retailers, Inc. and 3 Beall Brothers 3, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-

01348

AG Case #98-893255

Franchise Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Christine Monzingo

Filed: 02/06/98

Period: 1993 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Amount: \$250,488 Ray Langenberg

Ray Langenberg Scott, Douglass &

McConnico Austin

Issue: Whether the 1993 franchise tax on earned surplus is a retroactive tax as applied to fiscal year taxpayers.

Status: Bankruptcy stay in effect. See *General Dynamics v. Sharp* and *3 Beall Brothers 3, Inc. v. Comptroller, et al.* 

#### Texaco Refining & Marketing (East), Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-14555

AG Case #99-1249228

Franchise Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Filed: 12/15/99

Period: 1994 Plaintiff's Counsel: David H. Gilliland Amount: \$1,028,616.15 L.G. (Skip) Smith

Clark. Thomas & Winters

Austin

Issue: Whether Plaintiff is entitled to a franchise tax credit for sales tax on manufacturing equipment purchased by a joint venture that it co-owned.

Status: Answer filed.

#### Texas Instruments, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN102799

AG Case #011496635

Franchise Tax; Protest & Asst. AAG Assigned: Christine Monzingo

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 08/27/01 Plaintiff's Counsel: David Cowling
Period: 1987-1990 Todd Wallace
Amount: \$6,683,563.48 Gregory E. Perry

Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue

**Dallas** 

Issue: Whether delivering goods to plaintiff's customers in plaintiff's "bond rooms" for eventual shipment out-of-state were sales that generated Texas receipts. Whether Plaintiff's long-term contracts were properly characterized as service contracts. Whether treatment of Plaintiff's cost-plus contracts as service contracts violated equal protection or equal and uniform taxation. Whether all interest should have been waived. Plaintiff also seeks declaratory relief and attorneys' fees.

Status: Discovery in progress.

#### *U.S. Home Corp. v. Rylander, et al.* Cause #GN003082

AG Case #001372424

Franchise Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Filed: 10/20/00

Period: 1992 and 1993 Plaintiff's Counsel: D. Steven Henry Amount: \$46,607.88 Gregory A. Harwell

Gregory A. Harwell Robert M. Reed, Jr. Gardere & Wynne

**Dallas** 

Issue: Whether Plaintiff is entitled to write down or write off the value of its investment in bankrupt subsidiaries.

Status: Answer filed.

Westcott Communications, Inc., Law Enforcement Television Network, Inc., Westcott ECI, Inc. and TI-IN Acquisition Corp. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-14049 AG Case #99-1093113

Franchise Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Filed: 12/17/98

Period: 01/01/92-12/31/94 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Amount: \$1,182,242.67 Ray Langenberg

Steve Wingard
Scott, Douglass &
McConnico

Austin

Issue: Whether apportionment of satellite service gross receipts to Texas violates the commerce, due process or equal protection clauses of the Constitution or the Tax Code and Comptroller rules apportioning receipts to the state where a service is performed. Alternatively, whether interest should be waived.

Status: Defendants' Cross Motion for Summary Judgment filed 02/27/02. Plaintiffs' Motion for Summary Judgment set 03/21/02. Court granted Defendants' Motion for Summary Judgment 05/20/02. Clerk's Record filed 07/11/02. Appellants' brief due 08/11/02.

#### Wheelabrator Corp., The and Swindell Dressler Leasing Co. v. Sharp, et al.

Cause #98-00942 AG Case #98-891532

Franchise Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Filed: 01/23/98

Period: 1990-1993 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Amount: \$38,482 Scott, Douglass &

\$473,678 McConnico

Austin

Issue: Whether intercompany payable account obligations should have been excluded from debt for purposes of calculating franchise tax.

Status: Discovery in progress. Deposition of plaintiff taken 01/25/01. Deposition of defendants taken 03/22-23/01. Mediation held 07/08/02. Trial scheduled 07/29/02.

#### Sales Tax

#### Advanta Business Services Corp. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN103463

AG Case #011514544

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Filed: 10/19/01

Period: 11/01/92-12/31/97 Plaintiff's Counsel: W. Stephen Benesh Amount: \$929.964.11 Deanna E. King

Bracewell & Patterson

Austin

Issue: Whether plaintiff's leases were financing leases and not taxable operating leases under Comptroller Rule 3.294(i). Whether the Comptroller's sample was flawed. Alternatively, whether penalty and interest should have been waived.

Status: Discovery in progress.

#### Alexopolous, Dimitrios P. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-08096

AG Case #99-1187865

Sales Tax; Declaratory Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Judgment

Filed: 07/14/99 Plaintiff's Counsel: Stephen W. Sather

Period: 07/01/88-03/31/95 Naman, Howell, Smith &

Amount: \$134,455.65 Lee

Issue: Issue is whether the Comptroller incorrectly calculated Plaintiff's gross taxable sales by using too low a factor for Plaintiff's personal consumption, improperly comparing Plaintiff's operations to other fast-food outlets, failing to consider that higher subsequent sales were due to population increases, determining that Plaintiff kept inadequate records when Plaintiff had lost them in a fire, and failing to consider the results of an IRS audit. Whether penalty and interest should be waived.

Status: Bankruptcy stay in effect. Discovery in progress. Trial set 10/15/01. Plaintiff filed bankruptcy petition 09/24/01. Bankruptcy/Collection Division has requested bankruptcy court to abstain.

#### Alpine Industries, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-12998

AG Case #98-1080526

Sales Tax: Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Filed: 11/20/98

Period: 1994-1998 Plaintiff's Counsel: Stephen D. Good Amount: \$31,128.62

Gregory A. Harwell Gardere & Wynne

**Dallas** 

Issue: Whether Alpine may be regarded as a seller for direct sales made in Texas by independent dealers and whether holding Alpine liable for sales tax violates the commerce clause, due process or equal protection.

Status: Discovery in progress.

#### American Oil Change Corp. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-06374

AG Case #99-1175084

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Filed: 06/03/99

Period: 1992-1993 Plaintiff's Counsel: Bill Johnson **Baker Botts** Amount: \$467,142.31

Houston

Issue: Whether materials are provided by Plaintiff to its customers in the course of its motor vehicle repairs under lump sum contracts, requiring Plaintiff to pay tax on the cost of materials. If Plaintiff's contracts are lump sum, whether Plaintiff is entitled to credit for tax collected from its customers and remitted to the Comptroller. Whether software services are taxable when the seller of the services contributes rather than sells the software itself. Whether software services are exempt under §151.346 as sales between affiliated entities of previously exempt services. Whether interest should have been waived. Whether any of the above issues result in a denial of equal protection, equal and uniform taxation or due process under the federal and state constitutions.

Status: Plaintiff filed motion to retain 08/13/01.

#### Aramis Services, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-03527

AG Case #98-930349

Sales Tax: Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Filed: 04/03/98

Period: 04/01/90-03/31/94 Plaintiffs Counsel: David E. Cowling

Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue Amount: \$291,196

Dallas

Issue: Whether written and other promotional materials incurred use tax when delivered into Texas to retailers. Issue of when and where ownership rights existed.

Status: Answer filed.

#### Aramis Services, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #0000384

AG Case #001273051

Sales Tax: Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Filed: 02/11/00

Period: 04/01/94-12/31/97 Plaintiff's Counsel: David E. Cowling Amount: \$281,676.36

Robert Lochridge

Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue

Dallas

Issue: Whether written and other promotional materials incurred use tax when delivered into Texas to retailers. Issue of when and where ownership rights existed. Whether Rule 3.346(b)(3)(A) is invalid and whether the Comptroller has authority to change its long-standing policy. Alternatively, whether penalty should be waived.

Status: Answer filed.

#### Baldry, Ann d/b/a Annie's Housekeeping Services v. Sharp, et al. Cause #95-02389 AG Case #95-234990

Sales Tax; Declaratory Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Judgment

Filed: 2/27/95 Plaintiff's Counsel: Alvin L. Thomas, II

Littler, Mendleson & Fastiff Period: 04/01/88-06/30/92

Houston Amount: \$63,588

Issue: Whether sales tax is due on maid services provided by maids placed by Plaintiff's service but acting as independent contractors. Also, whether Plaintiff relied, to her detriment, on advice from the Comptroller's Office.

Status: Discovery in progress.

### Bandas, David v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN201236

AG Case #021598024

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Scott Simmons

Filed: 04/16/02

Period: 05/01/96-04/30/00 Plaintiff's Counsel: Tom Tourtellotte

Amount: \$24,178.86 Hance Scarborough Wright

Ginsberg & Brusilow

Austin

Issue: Whether plaintiff is entitled to a sale for resale exemption on data processing services used in preparing tax returns.

Status: Answer filed.

### Bedrock General Contractors v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN101432

AG Case #011442035

Sales Tax; Declaratory Asst. AAG Assigned: Nicole Galwardi

Judgment

Filed: 05/10/01 Plaintiff's Counsel: Timothy M. Trickey
Period: 06/01/92-01/31/96 The Trickey Law Firm

Amount: \$64,552.33 Austin

Issue: Whether successor liability was retroactively imposed. Whether successor liability may be imposed when little or no cash is exchanged in the purchase of the predecessor.

### Bell Bottom Foundation Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-01092

AG Case #99-1112186

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Scott Simmons

Filed: 01/29/99

Period: 01/01/91-12/31/94 Plaintiff's Counsel: Timothy M. Trickey Amount: \$81,571.73 The Trickey Law Firm

Austin

Issue: Whether taxpayer's sub-contract was a separated contract since the general contractor's construction contract was separated.

Status: Answer filed. Change of counsel filed.

### Bell Helicopter Textron, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN200525

AG Case #021567755

Sales Tax; Refund & Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 02/15/02 Plaintiff's Counsel: Gilbert J. Bernal, Jr.

Period: 01/01/90-06/30/93 Kirk R. Lyda 07/01/93-06/30/97 Stahl, Martens & Bernal

Amount: \$7,280,079 Austin

Issue: Whether title passed to the federal government according to Plaintiff's contracts at the time Plaintiff took possession of the items, thus establishing the sale for resale exemption recognized in *Day & Zimmerman v. Calvert*. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees and a declaration that the Comptroller disregarded controlling federal law, violated equal protection or imposed tax on the U.S. government.

Status: Answer filed.

### Big Tex Air Conditioning, Inc. v. Bullock, et al. Cause #486,321

AG Case #90-322672

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Filed: 6/26/90

Period: 04/01/85-07/31/88 Plaintiff's Counsel: John W. Berkel

Amount: \$181,397 Houston

Issue: Detrimental reliance and various allegations of unconstitutional enforcement; statute of limitations.

Status: Some discovery done. Inactive.

# Border Steel Rolling Mills, Inc. and Border Steel, Inc., as Successor in Interest to Border Steel Rollings Mills, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN002671

AG Case #001352137

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Scott Simmons

Filed: 09/08/00

Period: 06/01/91-08/31/95 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ray Bonilla

Amount: \$76,281.34 Ray, Wood, Fine & Bonilla

Austin

Issue: Whether Plaintiff's rail-mounted cranes, related repair parts and labor are exempt from sales and use tax as rolling stock. Whether the Comptroller fully implemented an administrative agreement on taxation of other equipment and parts qualifying for the manufacturing exemption.

Status: Discovery in progress.

### Brighton Builders, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #97-11830

AG Case #97-837489

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Filed: 10/15/97

Period: 10/01/92-09/30/95 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ray Langenberg

Amount: \$195,368 Scott Douglass & McConnico

Austin

Issue: Whether certain real property services, such as landscaping and construction site cleanup, are taxable.

Status: Discovery near completion.

### Briscoe, Billy R. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN103316

AG Case #011509502

Sales Tax; Declaratory Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Judgment

Filed: 10/09/01 Plaintiff's Counsel: James F. Martens

Period: 1975-1979 Stahl, Martens & Bernal

Amount: \$140,000 Austin

Issue: Whether plaintiff owes motor vehicle sales tax on trailers affixed to real property. Whether plaintiff may recover damages for harm to his credit rating caused by the Comptroller. Plaintiff seeks release of liens, economic damages and attorneys' fees.

Status: Discovery in progress. Motion to Dismiss and Trial on Stipulation of Facts set 10/14/02.

# **Broadcast Satellite International, Inc. v. Rylander, et al.** Cause #GN002895 AG Case #001365014

Sales Tax; Declaratory Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Judgment

Filed: 10/02/00 Plaintiff's Counsel: William E. Bailey

Period: 01/01/91-12/31/97 Dallas

Amount: \$250,840.25

Issue: Whether Plaintiff's broadcast services are non-taxable information services under §151.0038(a). Whether Plaintiff's services are not taxable telecommunications services under §151.0103(l) or data processing under §151.0035. Whether the sale or use of Plaintiff's services occurred out-of-state. Whether Plaintiff's experts demonstrated that Plaintiff is exempt under federal law. Plaintiff also asserts limitations as to part of the liability and seeks declaratory and injunctive relief.

Status: Temporary injunction hearing held 11/29/00. Temporary injunction denied 02/08/01.

# **Broadcast Satellite International, Inc. v. Rylander, et al.** Cause #GN103568 AG Case #011518479

Sales Tax; Declaratory Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Judgment, Refund & Protest

Filed: 10/26/01 Plaintiff's Counsel: William E. Bailey

Period: 01/01/91-12/31/97 Dallas

Amount: \$200,000

Issue: Whether Plaintiff's broadcast services are non-taxable information services under §151.0038(a). Whether Plaintiff's services are not taxable telecommunications services under §151.0103(l) or data processing under §151.0035. Whether the sale or use of Plaintiff's services occurred out-of-state. Whether Plaintiff's experts demonstrated that Plaintiff is exempt under federal law. Plaintiff asserts limitations as to part of the liability and also seeks attorneys' fees.

# Burgess, Connie, Individually and on Behalf of all Similarly Situated Consumers v. Gallery Model Homes, Inc., dba Gallery Furniture and all Similarly Situated Retailers Cause #01-01-01014-CV

AG Case #021641543

Sales Tax; Refund & Class Asst. AAG Assigned: Gene Storie

Action

Filed: 06/99 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ronald J. Kormanik

Period: Michael D. Sydow

Amount: \$ Sydow, Kormanik, Carrigan

& Eckerson Houston

Donald Self

The Law Offices of Don Self

Houston

George Y. Nino The Nino Law Firm

Houston

Issue: Whether Plaintiffs may sue their vendors directly in a class action suit for alleged overcharges of sales tax without first getting a determination on the merits from the Comptroller.

Status: Comptroller's amicus brief due 08/31/02.

#### C & T Stone Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN002428

AG Case #001344233

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Filed: 08/18/00

Period: 04/01/94-12/31/97 Plaintiff's Counsel: William T. Peckham

Amount: \$207,454.40 Austin

Issue: Whether Plaintiff owes sales tax on its sales of limestone to third parties under §151.311(a). Whether Plaintiff detrimentally relied on advice from the Comptroller's Office. Whether exemption certificates covered some sales that were assessed tax. Whether Plaintiff is entitled to the manufacturing exemption under §151.318(g). Whether penalty and interest should be waived.

### Cafeteria Operators, L.P. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-14363

03-01-00447-CV AG Case #99-1243411

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Filed: 12/09/99

Period: 04/01/91-10/31/94 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Amount: \$117,868.69 Ray Langenberg

Ray Langenberg Scott, Douglass &

McConnico Austin

Issue: Whether Plaintiff's use of gas and electricity is exempt as processing. Whether Plaintiff's food products are prepared or stored for immediate consumption, thus eliminating the exemption. Whether taxation of Plaintiff's purchases of gas and electricity violates equal protection and lacks a rational basis.

Status: Summary judgment granted for defendants 07/05/01. Notice of appeal and request to clerk to prepare clerk's record filed 08/02/01. Docketing statement filed with Court of Appeals 08/15/01. Clerk's Record filed 09/13/01. Appellants' brief filed 10/10/01. Appellants' request for oral argument overruled on 11/27/01. Case set for submission on the briefs only on 01/14/02. Appellees' brief filed 12/18/01. Appellants' motion for oral argument filed 12/27/01; denied 01/09/02. Appellants' reply brief filed 01/11/02.

### Central Power & Light Co. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #96-11455

AG Case #96-602037

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Jana Kinkade

Filed: 09/20/96

Period: 07/01/86-12/31/89 Plaintiff's Counsel: L.G. Skip Smith

Amount: \$32,788 Clark, Thomas & Winters

Austin

Issue: Whether utility pole replacement services are non-taxable maintenance or taxable repair labor.

Status: Discovery in progress.

### Choi, Sung Ju d/b/a Sam Young Trading Co. v. Sharp Cause #95-14940

AG Case #95-424767

Sales Tax; Injunction Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Filed: 11/30/95

Period: 01/01/88-12/31/91 Plaintiff's Counsel: Kenneth Thomas Amount: \$54,068 Attorney at Law

**Dallas** 

Issue: Whether certain resale certificates should have been accepted by the Comptroller during the audit. Whether an injunction to suspend all collection activity should be granted.

Status: Discovery in progress.

### Church & Dwight Co., Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN000525

AG Case #001258201

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Filed: 01/12/00

Period: 10/01/90-12/31/93 Plaintiff's Counsel: Robert C. Alden Amount: \$64,868.50 Phillip L. Sampson, Jr.

Bracewell & Patterson

Austin

Issue: Whether Plaintiff owes use tax on promotional materials shipped from out-of-state. Whether the Comptroller's imposition of use tax is invalid because Plaintiff made no use of the materials in Texas. Whether Rule 3.346(b)(3)(A) is invalid. Whether the tax violates the Commerce and Due Process Clauses of the United States Constitution.

Status: Answer filed.

### Clinique Services, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-03533

AG Case #98-930330

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Filed: 04/03/98

Period: 04/01/90-03/31/94 Plaintiff's Counsel: David E. Cowling

Amount: \$519,192 Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue

Dallas

Issue: Whether written and other promotional materials incurred use tax when delivered into Texas to retailers. Issue of when and where ownership rights existed.

Status: Answer filed.

### Clinique Services, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN000376

AG Case #001273069

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Filed: 02/11/00

Period: 04/01/94-03/31/98 Plaintiff's Counsel: David E. Cowling Amount: \$650,361.82 Robert Lochridge

Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue

Dallas

Issue: Whether written and other promotional materials incurred use tax when delivered into Texas to retailers. Issue of when and where ownership rights existed. Whether Rule 3.346(b)(3)(A) is invalid and whether the Comptroller has authority to change its long-standing policy. Alternatively, whether penalty should be waived.

Status: Answer filed.

### Coastal Refining & Marketing, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-03540

AG Case #98-930321

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Filed: 04/03/98

Period: 01/01/89-06/30/89 Plaintiff's Counsel: Jasper G. Taylor, III

07/01/89-12/31/91 Fulbright & Jaworski

Amount: \$1,635,965 Houston

Joe W. Cox

Coastal States Management

Corp. Houston

Issue: Whether certain work performed by Plaintiff is new construction under a lump sum contract and thus not taxable.

Status: Discovery in progress.

# Colt, Mach V., Trustee of the Harry T. Lloyd Charitable Trust, successor in interest to House of Lloyd, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN100740

AG Case #011423951

Sales Tax; Refund & Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 03/09/01 Plaintiff's Counsel: Marilyn A. Wethekam
Period: 01/01/95-03/31/99 Horwood Marcus & Berk

Amount: \$645.193.40 Chartered

Chicago, Illinois

David E. Cowling Charolette Noel Gregory E. Perry

Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue

**Dallas** 

Issue: Whether Plaintiff is entitled to refund of sales tax on "hostess free goods," because Plaintiff paid use tax on the goods. Whether sales tax collected from its hostesses on hostess free goods can be refunded to them by a credit for merchandise. Whether Rule 3.325(b)(2) is invalid. Plaintiff also seeks declaratory relief and attorneys' fees.

Status: Answer filed.

### **D&D Recycling, Inc. v. Rylander, et al.** Cause #GN002278

AG Case #001339886

Sales Tax; Declaratory Asst. AAG Assigned: Scott Simmons

Judgment

Filed: 08/09/00 Plaintiff's Counsel: Curtis J. Osterloh
Period: 1993-1996 Scott, Douglass &
Amount: \$38,141.72 McConnico

Austin

Issue: Whether Plaintiff's sort line (conveyor belt) is exempt manufacturing equipment. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

Status: Settlement agreement finalized. Awaiting taxpayer's completion of payment schedule in 08/02.

### E. de la Garza, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN003589

AG Case #0011395316

Sales Tax: Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Scott Simmons

Filed: 12/15/00

Period: 01/01/93-12/31/96 Plaintiff's Counsel: Rudy de la Garza Amount: \$83,138.14 Brownsville

Issue: Whether sales of grocery bags and sacks are not taxable when sold to grocery stores who have provided a blanket sale for resale certificate. Plaintiff also complains of audit calculation errors.

Status: Discovery in progress.

### EFW, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN200906

AG Case #021579578

Jana Kinkade Sales Tax; Declaratory Asst. AAG Assigned:

Judgment

Filed: 03/19/02 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Period: 04/94-03/31/98 Ray Langenberg

Doug Sigel

Amount: \$123,440.25 Curtis J. Osterloh Scott, Douglass & McConnico

Austin

Issue: Whether title passed to the federal government according to Plaintiff's contracts at the time Plaintiff took possession of the items, thus establishing the sale for resale exemption recognized in Day & Zimmerman v. Calvert. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

Status: Answer filed.

### El Paso Natural Gas Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN103408

AG Case #011509676

Sales Tax: Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Filed: 10/16/01

Plaintiff's Counsel: Period: 01/01/96-01/31/96 Ron Patterson

Amount: \$288,750 Kliewer, Breen, Garatoni,

Patterson & Malone, Inc.

San Antonio

Issue: Whether plaintiff, a common carrier pipeline owner, owes use tax on an aircraft used in its business.

Status: Answer filed. Outcome pending Tennessee Gas Pipeline Co. v. Rylander, et al.

### El Paso Natural Gas Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN103409

AG Case #011509650

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Filed: 10/16/01

Period: 10/01/93-07/31/96 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ron Patterson

Amount: \$16,290.85 Kliewer, Breen, Garatoni,

Patterson & Malone, Inc.

San Antonio

Issue: Plaintiff contends that because it operates a common-carrier pipeline and is a certificated or licensed carrier of property it may avoid sales tax on repair, remodeling, and maintenance services purchased in connection with the maintenance and repair of aircraft Plaintiff owns and uses in operating its common-carrier pipeline.

Status: Answer filed. Outcome pending Tennessee Gas Pipeline Co. v. Rylander, et al.

### Estee Lauder Services, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-03525

AG Case #98-930358

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Filed: 04/03/98

Period: 01/01/89-09/30/92 Plaintiff's Counsel: David E. Cowling

Amount: \$472,225 Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue

Dallas

Issue: Whether written and other promotional materials incurred use tax when delivered into Texas to retailers. Issue of when and where ownership rights existed.

Status: Settlement offer pending.

### Estee Lauder Services, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-03524

AG Case #98-930367

Sales Tax: Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Filed: 04/03/98

Period: 10/01/92-03/31/96 Plaintiffs Counsel: David E. Cowling

Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue Amount: \$748,773

Dallas

Issue: Whether written and other promotional materials incurred use tax when delivered into Texas to retailers. Issue of when and where ownership rights existed.

Status: Settlement offer pending.

### Estee Lauder Services, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN101312

AG Case #011439874

Sales Tax: Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Filed: 05/01/01

Period: 04/01/96-06/30/99 Plaintiff's Counsel: David E. Cowling Amount: \$614,814.78

Robert Lochridge

Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue

Dallas

Issue: Whether written and other promotional materials incurred use tax when delivered into Texas to retailers. Issue of when and where ownership rights existed.

Status: Settlement offer pending.

### FXI Corp. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN102724

AG Case #011492857

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Jana Kinkade

Filed: 08/22/01

Period: 10/01/94-06/30/98 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Amount: \$51,832.31

Ray Langenberg Eric Hagenswold Scott, Douglass &

McConnico . Austin

Issue: Whether Plaintiff's boxes and packing materials are exempt as items shipped out-of-state. Whether denial of the exemption violates equal protection.

Status: Answer filed.

### F M Express Food Mart, Inc., and Fouad Hanna Mekdessi v. Rylander, et al.

Cause #GN002724 AG Case #001353960

Sales Tax; Injunction Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Filed: 09/15/00

Period: 12/01/90-11/30/97 Plaintiff's Counsel: Percy L. "Wayne" Isgitt

Amount: \$360,671.05 Houston

Issue: Whether Comptroller's "estimated audit" is invalid. Whether Plaintiffs are entitled to an injunction of collection and of cancellation of their sales tax permits. Whether Tax Code §§112.051, 112.052, 112.101 and 112.108 are unconstitutional violations of the open courts provision. Plaintiffs seek a reaudit and a refund of money paid under protest in excess of the re-audited amount.

Status: Discovery in progress. Plaintiffs currently preparing settlement offer.

### Fiesta Texas Theme Park, Ltd. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-02407

AG Case #98-914152

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Jana Kinkade

Filed: 03/05/98

Period: 10/01/90-04/30/93 Plaintiff's Counsel: Jasper G. Taylor, III Amount: \$328,829 Fulbright & Jaworski

Houston

Issue: Whether prizes awarded by Plaintiff to successful contestants of coin-operated as well as non-coin operated games are purchased for resale. Whether sales tax constitutes double taxation on machines on which occupation tax is paid and on non-coin games, admission to which is taxed. Advertising and sewing services are not taxable.

Status: Discovery in progress. Plaintiff filed unopposed motion to retain and will consolidate case with pending administrative matters when they are concluded. Motion to retain granted. Scheduling order filed. Trial set 11/12/02.

### Fiesta Texas Theme Park, Ltd. and San Antonio Theme Park, L.P. v. Rylander, et

**al.** Cause #GN200563 AG Case #021567789

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Jana Kinkade

Filed: 02/20/02

Period: 05/01/93-03/01/96 Plaintiff's Counsel: Jasper G. Taylor III 03/01/96-02/28/98 Jay M. Chadha
Amount: \$592,759.97 Fulbright & Jaworski

\$349,933.08 Houston

Issue: Whether prizes awarded by Plaintiff to successful contestants of coin-operated as well as non-coin operated games are purchased for resale. Whether sales tax constitutes double taxation on machines on which occupation tax is paid and on non-coin games, admission to which is taxed. Advertising and sewing services are not taxable. Whether the assessment against Fiesta was outside limitations.

Status: Discovery in progress. Consolidated with Cause No. 98-02407 04/23/02.

### Galleria Limited v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN002277

AG Case #001339944

Sales Tax; Refund & Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 08/09/00 Plaintiff's Counsel: Gerard A. Desrochers

Period: 1993-1994 Houston

Amount: \$349,084.33

Issue: Whether correction of original construction defects is new construction or real property repair and remodeling. Whether Comptroller Rule 3.357 conflicts with legislative intent. Whether the Comptroller's application of the statute and rule violate due process and equal protection. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

### Garza, Lawrence v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-07607

AG Case #98-1001886

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Jana Kinkade

Filed: 07/17/98

Period: 01/01/93-09/30/95 Plaintiff's Counsel: Stephen P. Dillon Amount: \$83,910 Lindeman & Dillon

Houston

Issue: Whether the Comptroller used the proper sampling procedure and whether Plaintiff was correctly notified of the procedure to be used.

Status: Discovery in progress. Trial set 12/16/02.

### Gateway Homes, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-14225

AG Case #99-1093188

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Filed: 12/22/98

Period: 01/01/91-09/30/95 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Amount: \$133,146.26 Ray Langenberg

Ray Langenberg
Paige Arnette
Scott, Douglass &
McConnico
Austin

Issue: Whether various service activities such as landscaping, cleaning and waste removal are taxable real property services. Whether any tax due is owed by independent contractor service providers under a tax-included contract. Whether tax was assessed on non-taxable new construction. Whether the assessment violates equal protection and whether interest should be waived.

Status: Answer filed.

### General Dynamics Corp. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN201322

AG Case #021598057

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Filed: 04/22/02

Period: 09/01/88-11/30/91 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ira A. Lipstet

Amount: \$7,000,000 Matthew G. Grimmer

Jenkens & Gilchrist

Austin

Issue: Whether title passed to the federal government according to Plaintiff's contracts at the time Plaintiff took possession of the items, thus establishing the sale for resale exemption recognized in *Day & Zimmerman v. Calvert*.

Status: Answer filed.

### General Dynamics Corp. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN201323

AG Case #021598073

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Filed: 04/22/02

Period: 12/01/91-02/28/93 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ira A. Lipstet

Amount: \$4,500,000 Matthew G. Grimmer
Jenkens & Gilchrist

Austin

Issue: Whether title passed to the federal government according to Plaintiff's contracts at the time Plaintiff took possession of the items, thus establishing the sale for resale exemption recognized in *Day & Zimmerman v. Calvert*.

Status: Answer filed.

### Gift Box Corp. of America, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN102934

AG Case #011492865

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Filed: 09/05/01

Period: 10/91-03/97 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ira A. Lipstet

Amount: \$359,929.22 Matthew G. Grimmer Jenkins & Gilchrist

Austin

Issue: Whether additional resale certificates should have been accepted for Plaintiff's sales of boxes and packaging materials.

### Graybar Electric Co., Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #97-01795

AG Case #97-682966

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Scott Simmons

Filed: 02/13/97

Period: 01/01/88-12/31/91 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Amount: \$107,667 Ray Langenberg

Ray Langenberg Scott, Douglass &

McConnico Austin

Issue: Whether the sample audit resulted in a correct assessment.

Status: Settlement negotiations pending.

### H.J. Wilson Co., Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-11574

AG Case #98-1063332

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Filed: 10/13/98

Period: 07/01/90-12/31/93 Plaintiff's Counsel: David E. Cowling

Amount: \$1,076,019 Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue

**Dallas** 

Issue: Whether the purchase of sales catalogs printed out-of-state and shipped to Plaintiff's customers in Texas (at no charge to the customer) incur sales tax.

Status: Answer filed. On hold. Plaintiff filed bankruptcy in Tennessee 03/25/99. Motion to dismiss by court set 05/07/01. Plaintiff filed motion to retain 04/25/01.

### Heritage Numismatic Auctions, Inc. and Heritage Capital Corp. v. Rylander, et al.

Cause #99-06186 AG Case #99-1175282

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Scott Simmons

Filed: 05/27/99

Period: 1993-1995 Plaintiff's Counsel: Brett B. Flagg

10/92-03/96 Brett B. Flagg & Associates

Amount: \$41,549.31 Dallas

\$80,179.86

Issue: Whether inter-company transactions were taxable sale. Whether some audit items were not taxable data processing services. Whether data processing services were exempt inter-company transactions.

Status: Negotiations in progress.

### Herndon Marine Products, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #91-14786

AG Case #91-164788

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Filed: 10/18/91

Period: 01/01/87 - 03/31/90 Plaintiff's Counsel: John D. Bell

Amount: \$62,465 Wood, Boykin & Wolter

Corpus Christi

Issue: Whether predominant use of electricity from Plaintiff's meter is exempt. Whether burden of proof in administrative hearing should be clear and convincing evidence or preponderance of the evidence.

Status: Special exceptions and answer filed.

### Hines Interests Limited Partnership v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN003245

AG Case #001381680

Sales Tax; Protest & Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Filed: 11/08/00

Period: 07/01/92-02/28/94 Plaintiff's Counsel: Gerard A. Desrochers

Amount: \$129,677.60 Houston

Issue: Whether correction of original construction defects is new construction or real property repair and remodeling. Whether Comptroller Rule 3.357 conflicts with legislative intent. Whether the Comptroller's application of the statute and rule violate due process and equal protection. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

### House of Lloyd, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN000111

AG Case #001261478

Sales Tax; Protest & Refund

Filed: 01/21/00

Period: 06/01/92-12/31/96

Amount: \$597,281.67

Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Plaintiff's Counsel: Marilyn A. Wethekam

Horwood Marcus & Berk

Chartered

Chicago, Illinois

L.G. (Skip) Smith

Clark, Thomas & Winters

Austin

Issue: Whether Plaintiff owes use tax on direct sales items, hostess free goods and demonstrator kits. Whether Plaintiff owes tax for under-collection of local sales tax. Whether the Comptroller's sample was flawed because it failed to consider over-collections of tax. Whether penalty should be waived.

Status: Answer filed.

# Hawa, Hunter Travis on behalf of all others similarly situated v. Red Lobster of Texas, Inc., et al. Cause #A-0166552

AG Case #

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Gene Storie

Filed: 05/14/02

Period: Plaintiff's Counsel: Peter Tropoli
Amount: \$
Houston

Issue: Whether the State is liable to a retailer who is sued in a class action to recover overpaid sales taxes.

### Interpak Terminals, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #95-15213

AG Case #95-428718

Sales Tax: Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Scott Simmons

Filed: 12/07/95

Period: 04/01/89-06/19/95 Plaintiffs Counsel: Paul Price Amount: \$14,125 Tom Wheat

Pearson & Price Corpus Christi

Issue: Whether Plaintiff is entitled to the exemption for wrapping and packaging materials it uses to package plastic pellets sent to it by the manufacturer of the pellets.

Status: Discovery in progress.

### JHS Enterprises, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN201357

AG Case #021613591

Asst. AAG Assigned: Sales Tax; Declaratory Steve Rodriguez

Judgment

Filed: 04/25/02 Plaintiff's Counsel: Arne M. Ray Ray & Associates Period: 01/01/97-09/30/99

Amount: \$77,774.37 Houston

Issue: Whether Plaintiff owes tax for storage of abandoned vehicles later sold by the City of Houston.

Plaintiff also seeks attorneys fees.

Status: Plaintiff's motion on stay of administrative hearing denied as moot.

### Jerman Cookie Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN101492

AG Case #011451598

Sales Tax; Refund and Asst. AAG Assigned: Scott Simmons

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 05/16/01 Plaintiff's Counsel: Steve M. Williard

Period: 12/01/92 through L. Don Knight 03/31/97

Meyer, Knight & Williams

Houston Amount: \$43,121.45

Issue: Whether plaintiff's sale of cookies and brownies is taxable under Tax Code §151.314 and Comptroller Rule 3.293. Plaintiff also seeks review under the Administrative Procedures Act and the UDJA, and seeks attorneys fees.

Status: Amended Petition filed. Discovery in progress.

### John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Co., The v. Rylander, et al. Cause

#GN001612

AG Case #001316520

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Filed: 06/05/00

Period: 01/01/94-12/31/98 Plaintiff's Counsel: James D. Blume Amount: \$345,377.95 Jennifer S. Stoddard

Blume & Stoddard

Dallas

Issue: Whether an insurance company is exempt from sales taxes on its use of electricity on the grounds that Tex. Ins. Code Art. 4.11, Section 9 prohibits them.

Status: Answer filed.

### LabOne, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN002190

AG Case #001335645

Sales Tax; Protest & Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 08/02/00 Plaintiff's Counsel: James F. Martens Period: 1991-1997 Kirk R. Lyda

Amount: \$520,983.95 Stahl, Martens & Bernal

Austin

Issue: Whether Plaintiff has nexus in Texas for tax on performance of lab tests in Kansas. Whether Plaintiff's activities are taxable insurance services in Texas. Whether Plaintiff's services and sales of supplies are exempt by rule and statute. Whether tax on Plaintiff violates due process and equal taxation. Plaintiff also seeks declaratory relief and attorneys' fees.

Status: Plaintiff's motion for summary judgment hearing set 06/24/02.

#### Lake Charles Yamaha, Inc. v. Morales, et al. Cause #95-3802

AG Case #95-325883

Sales Tax; Declaratory Asst. AAG Assigned: Jana Kinkade

Judgment

Filed: 07/11/95 Plaintiff's Counsel: Russell J. Stutes, Jr.

Period: 04/01/91-03/31/95 Scofield, Gerard, Veron, Amount: \$150,214 Singletary & Pohorelsky

Lake Charles, Louisiana

Issue: Plaintiff asserts that it has no nexus with Texas and cannot be assessed sales tax, although it concedes that it delivers merchandise into Texas in its own trucks. Plaintiff asks for a declaratory judgment and damages/attorneys fees under 42 USC §§1983 and 1988.

Status: Will be dismissed or non-suited pursuant to Lake Charles Music suit, Louisiana Appeals Court.

### Laredo Country Club, Inc., A Texas Corp. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-11834

AG Case #98-1064363

Sales Tax; Protest; Asst. AAG Assigned: Scott Simmons

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 10/20/98 Plaintiff's Counsel: John Christian Period: 08/1-30/98 Vinson & Elkins

Amount: \$2.054 Austin

Issue: Whether sales tax is due on the portion of country club membership fees designated as "capital improvement fees" and "gratuities."

Status: Discovery in progress.

# **Lebaron Hotel Corp., d/b/a The Lebaron Hotel v. Sharp, et al.** Cause #91-17399 AG Case #92-10477

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Filed: 12/13/91

Period: 10/01/87 - 06/30/90 Plaintiff's Counsel: Robert C. Cox

Amount: \$22,326 Dallas

Issue: Whether Comptroller could tax an arbitrary percentage of ingredients in complimentary mixed drinks and whether ingredients are exempt because they are taxed elsewhere. Is tax due on repairs to parking lot. Whether purchase of items from Ramada Inn is exempt as entire operating assets of a business or identifiable segment.

Status: Answer filed.

### Lee Construction and Maintenance Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-01091

AG Case #99-1112160

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Scott Simmons

Filed: 01/29/99

Period: 01/01/92-12/31/95 Plaintiff's Counsel: Timothy M. Trickey
Amount: \$31,830.47 The Trickey Law Firm

Austin

Issue: Various issues, including credits for bad debts, tax paid, tax on new construction and tax paid in Louisiana, resale exemptions and waiver of penalty and interest.

Status: Settling discovery issue and proceeding towards final resolution. Trial set 10/29/02.

### Leyendecker Construction, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-08076

AG Case #98-1007248

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Jana Kinkade

Declaratory Judgment

Injunction Plaintiff's Counsel: Donato D. Ramos Filed: 07/27/98 Baldemar Garcia, Jr.

Period: 08/01/91-04/30/95 Person, Whitworth, Ramos,

Amount: \$215,486.14 Borchers & Morales

Laredo

Issue: Whether Plaintiff is responsible for sales tax it says it paid to its subcontractors and then collected from its customers as reimbursement. Related evidence issues.

Status: Dismissed for Want of Prosecution 04/15/02. Settlement offer from Plaintiff pending.

### Local Neon Co., Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-15042

AG Case #001254036

Sales Tax; Protest & Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 12/31/99 Plaintiff's Counsel: James D. Blume Jennifer S. Stoddard Period:

Amount: \$34,390.24 Blume & Stoddard

Dallas

Judy M. Cunningham

Austin

Issue: Whether Plaintiff was doing business in Texas by delivering and installing its signs that were sold under contract negotiated outside of Texas. Whether Plaintiff is entitled to declaratory judgment and attorneys' fees.

Status: Discovery in progress.

### Lockheed Martin Corp., as Successor to Lockheed Martin Vought Systems Corp. and Loral Vought Systems Corp. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN103525

AG Case #011523446

Sales Tax: Refund & Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 10/24/01 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Period: 09/01/92-11/30/95 Ray Langenberg Amount: \$2,680,000

Doug Sigel

Curtis J. Osterloh Scott, Douglass & McConnico

Austin

Issue: Whether title passed to the federal government according to Plaintiff's contracts at the time Plaintiff took possession of the items, thus establishing the sale for resale exemption recognized in *Day* & Zimmerman v. Calvert. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

### Lockheed Martin Corp. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN200999

AG Case #021583737

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Filed: 03/26/02

Period: 01/01/96-09/30/97 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ira A. Lipstet

Amount: \$3,500,000 Matthew G. Grimmer Jenkens & Gilchrist

Austin

Issue: Whether title passed to the federal government according to Plaintiff's contracts at the time Plaintiff took possession of the items, thus establishing the sale for resale exemption recognized in *Day & Zimmerman v. Calvert*.

Status: Answer filed.

### Lockheed Corp. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN201000

AG Case #021583745

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Filed: 03/26/02

Period: 03/01/93-01/31/96 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ira A. Lipstet

Amount: \$7,000,000 Matthew G. Grimmer

Jenkens & Gilchrist

Austin

Issue: Whether title passed to the federal government according to Plaintiff's contracts at the time Plaintiff took possession of the items, thus establishing the sale for resale exemption recognized in *Day & Zimmerman v. Calvert*.

Status: Answer filed.

Lockheed Martin Corp., Successor to Lockheed Martin Vought Systems Corp. v. Rylander,et al. Cause #GN201725

AG Case #021620414

Sales Tax; Refund & Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 05/23/02 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman

Period: 12/01/95-06/30/97 Ray Langenberg Amount: \$1,857,000 Doug Sigel

> Curtis J. Osterloh Scott, Douglasss &

McConnico Austin

Issue: Whether title passed to the federal government according to Plaintiff's contracts at the time Plaintiff took possession of the items, thus establishing the sale for resale exemption recognized in *Day & Zimmerman v. Calvert*.

Status: Answer filed.

### Medaphis Physicians Services Corp. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #94-11610

AG Case #94-149390

Sales Tax; Protest and Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 09/16/94 Plaintiff's Counsel: Gary Miles

Period: 05/01/94-06/30/94 Sherri Alexander Amount: \$17,063 Johnson & Wortley

**Dallas** 

Issue: Whether Plaintiff's services are taxable (1) insurance services, (2) debt collection services, or (3) data processing services, and whether Rules 3.330, 3.354, and 3.355 exceed the Comptroller's rule making authority.

Status: Inactive.

#### Melek Corp. v. Rylander Cause #GN002146

AG Case #001339936

Sales Tax; Declaratory Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Judgment

Filed: 07/28/00 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mitzi T. Shannon Period: 1998 Kemp Smith, P.C.

Amount: \$ El Paso

Issue: Plaintiff contests the suspension of its Texas Customs Broker License and disagrees with the Comptroller's policy on goods being exported.

Status: Answer filed.

### Melek Corp. v. Rylander Cause #GN100441

AG Case #011410511

Sales Tax; Declaratory Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Judgment

Filed: 02/12/01 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mitzi T. Shannon
Period: 2000 Susan Zulkowski
Amount: \$ Kemp Smith, P.C.

El Paso

Issue: Plaintiff contests the suspension of its Texas Customs Broker License and disagrees with the Comptroller's policy on goods being exported.

Status: Answer filed.

### Mitchell, Christia Parr v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN201330

AG Case #021604541

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Scott Simmons

Filed: 04/22/02

Period: 01/01/95-12/31/98 Plaintiff's Counsel: Christia Parr Mitchell, Pro

Amount: \$160,870.48 Se

San Antonio

Issue: Whether plaintiff may recover a sales tax refund for taxes paid by a corporation controlled by her ex-husband when the liability was paid pursuant to orders of the court in which the divorce was granted.

### National Business Furniture, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-03927

AG Case #98-932766

Sales Tax; Protest & Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 04/15/98 Plaintiff's Counsel: Gilbert J. Bernal, Jr. Period: 01/01/93-07/31/95 Stahl, Martens & Bernal

Amount: \$68,398 Austin

Issue: Whether promotional materials printed out-of-state and delivered into Texas are subject to use

tax.

Status: Answer filed.

### Neiman Marcus Group, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #93-10279-A

AG Case #93-340549

Sales Tax; Protest, Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

& Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 08/26/93 Plaintiff's Counsel: David E. Cowling

Period: 01/01/87-03/31/90 Gregg Perry

Amount: \$1,046,465 Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue

Dallas

Issue: Plaintiff's customers buy gifts from Plaintiff outside Texas and have the gifts delivered by common carrier to Texas "donees." Should the Comptroller have assessed use tax on these "gift sends." Second Issue: whether tax is due on certain remodeling services. Plaintiff asks for attorneys fees under 42 USC §§1983 and 1988.

Status: Agreed judgment signed 03/11/96 on the gift send issue. An agreed order for severance was signed on 03/11/96 on the remodeling issues and the attorneys' fees. Cause renumbered 93-10279-A. State filed a plea to jurisdiction on attorneys' fees on 10/06/93. Settlement offer pending.

### Neiman Marcus Group, Inc., The v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN102403

AG Case #011478294

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Filed: 08/01/01

Period: 04/01/90-12/31/93 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Amount: \$1,908,969.01 Ray Langenberg

Ray Langenberg Scott, Douglass &

McConnico Austin

Issue: Whether printing charges for catalogs are not subject to use tax because: (a) the printing services were not used in Texas, (b) the printed catalogs were gifts for which title transferred outside Texas, (c) plaintiff did not have sufficient control to be a Texas user, (d) the statute does not include distribution in the definition of use, (e) no use tax is due under the doctrine of *Morton Bldgs.*, (f) Rule 3.346(b)(3)(A) does not apply or is invalid, and/or (g) Tax Code 151.3111(a) exempts the printing service. Whether photograph retouching is (a) a sale of tangible personal property, or (b) repair, remodeling, maintenance or restoration of tangible personal property, or (c) exempt under Tax Code 151.330(e). Also, whether remodeling contracts were tax included and whether sampling was improper. Plaintiff seeks attorneys fees.

Status: Answer filed.

### North American Intelecom, Inc., et al. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #97-05318

AG Case #97-733563

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Filed: 05/02/97

Period: 04/01/91-05/31/95 Plaintiff's Counsel: Jasper G. Taylor, III Amount: \$2,029,180 Fulbright & Jaworski

Houston

Issue: Whether care, custody, and control of Plaintiff's public telephone equipment passed to their customers, so that Plaintiff could buy the equipment tax free for resale.

Status: Inactive.

### North Texas Asset Management, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #94-08603

AG Case #94-113766

Sales Tax; Declaratory Asst. AAG Assigned: James Parsons

Judgment

Filed: 7/14/94 Plaintiff's Counsel: Judy M. Cunningham Period: 05/02/91-12/31/91 Attorney at Law

Amount: \$24,307 Austin

Issue: Whether a sale of a business approved by the SBA (which held a lien and received the proceeds) is tantamount to a foreclosure sale so that no successor liability should attach.

Status: Answer filed; inactive. Parties are involved in informal discussions to resolve or eliminate issues currently in controversy.

# Northrop Grumman Systems Corp. (Successor to Northrop Grumman Corp. and Vought Aircraft Co.) v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN201344

AG Case #021607155

Sales Tax; Refund & Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 05/01/02 Plaintiff's Counsel: Gilbert J. Bernal, Jr.

Period: 09/01/92-11/30/95 Kirk R. Lyda

Amount: \$1,600,000 Stahl, Martens & Bernal

Austin

Issue: Whether title passed to the federal government according to Plaintiff's contracts at the time Plaintiff took possession of the items, thus establishing the sale for resale exemption recognized in *Day & Zimmerman v. Calvert*. Plaintiff claims that collection of the tax violates the supremacy clause as a tax on the U.S. government and that the Comptroller violated the constitutional requirements of equal protection and equal taxation by denying the refund claim. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

### Norwood Homes, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-05637

AG Case #98-970135

Sales Tax: Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Filed: 05/28/98

Period: 10/01/92-06/30/96 Plaintiffs Counsel: John W. Mahoney Amount: \$77,887.44

Williams, Birnberg &

Andersen Houston

Issue: Whether certain cleaning services are taxable as real property services or are part of new

construction of real property.

Status: Discovery in progress.

### Paragon Communications v. Sharp, et al. Cause #97-10995

AG Case #97-825189

Jim Cloudt Sales Tax: Protest Asst. AAG Assigned:

Filed: 09/25/97

Period: 02/01/87-08/31/90 Plaintiff's Counsel: Curtis J. Osterloh Amount: \$393,497

Scott, Douglass & McConnico

Austin

Issue: Whether municipal franchise fees paid by Plaintiff and passed on to its customers should be included in taxable cable services. Whether certain services, labor to lay new lines, purchased by Plaintiff were taxable repair and remodeling or were exempt new construction.

Status: Discovery in progress.

### Perry Homes, A Joint Venture v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-14226

AG Case #99-1093170

Sales Tax: Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Filed: 12/22/98

Period: 10/01/91-09/30/93 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Amount: \$550,978.17 Ray Langenberg

Paige Amette Scott, Douglass &

**McConnico** 

Austin

Issue: Whether various service activities such as landscaping, cleaning and waste removal are taxable real property services. Whether any tax due is owed by independent contractor service providers under a tax- included contract. Whether tax was assessed on non-taxable new construction. Whether the assessment violates equal protection and whether interest should be waived.

Status: Defendants' Motion for Summary Judgment filed. Summary Judgment Hearing held 06/13/02. Judgment granted in Comptroller's favor.

# **Peter Piper, Inc. and L & H Pacific, L.L.C. v. Sharp, et al.** Cause #96-11750 AG Case #96-613454

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Filed: 09/27/96

Amount: \$155,404

Period: 08/01/89-06/30/92 Plaintiff's Counsel: Richard L. Rothfelder

Craig Estlinbaum Kirkendall, Isgur &

Rothfelder Houston

Issue: Whether prizes obtained by collecting tickets from amusement machines in a restaurant are "purchased" by the customer as part of the price of the food.

Status: Discovery in progress.

### Petrolite Corp. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #91-13885

AG Case #91-149840

Sales Tax; Protest and Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Refund

Filed: 09/27/91 Plaintiff's Counsel: David H. Gilliland

Period: 04/01/84 - 03/31/88 Clark, Thomas & Winters

Amount: \$432,105 Austin

Issue: Resale certificates; taxable maintenance services; taxability of various chemicals and other tangible personal property used in oil well services.

Status: Inactive.

# Pflugerville, City of v. Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority and Carole Keeton Rylander Cause #GV100065

AG Case #

Sales Tax; Declaratory Asst. AAG Assigned:

Judgment J. Bruce Scrafford Filed: 01/11/01 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark L. Hawkins

Period: 01/22/00-07/01/00 Armbrust, Brown & Davis

Amount: \$ Austin

Issue: What amounts of local tax are due to the City of Pflugerville and Capital Metro.

Status: Answer filed.

Praxair, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #97-03919 (consolidated with Cause No. 95-00690,

Praxair, Inc. v. Sharp, et al.)

AG Case #97-706272

Sales Tax; Refund & Asst. AAG Assigned: Jana Kinkade

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 04/01/97 Plaintiff's Counsel: Gerard A. Desrochers

Period: 01/01/90-12/31/90 Houston

Amount: \$57,815

Issue: Whether the Comptroller erroneously denied Plaintiff's claim for refund of tax paid on manufacturing equipment, alleging that Plaintiff was not engaged in actual manufacturing.

Status: See Cause No. 95-00690, Praxair, Inc. v. Sharp, et al.

Praxair, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #95-00690

AG Case #95-214921

Sales Tax; Refund & Asst. AAG Assigned: Jana Kinkade

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 01/18/95 Plaintiff's Counsel: Gerard A. Desrochers

Period: 1990 Houston

Amount: \$74,608

Issue: Whether the Comptroller erroneously denied Plaintiff's claim for refund of tax paid on manufacturing equipment, alleging that Plaintiff was not engaged in actual manufacturing.

Status: Discovery in progress. Stipulation of facts in progress.

### Prodigy Services Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-02693

AG Case #99-1130410

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Filed: 03/05/99

Period: 01/01/93-06/30/96 Plaintiff's Counsel: Gilbert J. Bernal, Jr.
Amount: \$206,971.88 Stahl, Martens & Bernal

Austin

Issue: Whether use tax is owed on catalogs mailed from out-of-state. Whether imposition of use tax violates the commerce clause, equal protection and equal taxation. Whether taxpayer may recover attorneys' fees under the Uniform Declaratory Judgments Act.

Status: Case settled. Awaiting dismissal.

## R Communications, Inc. f/k/a RN Communications, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #91-

4893

#03-91-00390CV AG Case #91-62355

Sales Tax; Declaratory Asst. AAG Assigned: Gene Storie

Judgment

Filed: 04/08/91 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark How

Period: 10/01/80 - 11/02/84 Short, How, Frels &

Amount: \$None (Plaintiff Tredoux was assessed \$67,836 tax Dallas

but did not pay)

Issue: Whether a taxpayer can be required to pay the disputed tax before filing suit in district court. Constitutionality of §112.108 under Texas Constitution Open Courts provision.

Status: District Court granted State's plea to the jurisdiction. State won appeal. Supreme Court reversed and remanded on 04/27/94. State's motion for rehearing denied. Inactive.

### RAI Credit Corp. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN003556

AG Case #011395266

Sales Tax; Refund & Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 12/12/00 Plaintiff's Counsel: David Cowling Period: 01/01/89-12/31/93 Gregory E. Perry

Amount: \$297,616.32 Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue

**Dallas** 

Issue: Whether Plaintiff lacks nexus for collection of use tax on accounts receivable that were factored to it. Whether Plaintiff is a "seller" or "retailer" engaged in business in Texas. Whether Plaintiff is liable under §111.016 as a person who received tax. Whether imposition of tax denies equal protection. Plaintiff also seeks declaratory relief and attorneys' fees.

Status: Answer filed.

### Raytheon E-Systems, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN101511

AG Case #011451606

Sales Tax; Declaratory Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Judgment and Refund

Filed: 05/17/01 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Period: 06/01/89 - 12/31/96 Ray Langenberg Amount: \$6,000,000 Doug Sigel

Curtis J. Osterloh Scott, Douglass & McConnico Austin

Issue: Whether title passed to the federal government according to Plaintiff's contracts at the time Plaintiff took possession of the items, thus establishing the sale for resale exemption recognized in *Day & Zimmerman v. Calvert*. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

Status: Discovery in progress. Summary Judgment hearing held 03/05/02. Partial summary judgment for plaintiff signed 03/29/02. Trial scheduled for 05/16/02. Judgment for Raytheon granted 05/15/02. Defendants' notice of appeal filed 06/04/02. Plaintiff's notice of appeal filed 06/14/02.

### Raytheon Co., as Successor in Interest to Raytheon Training, Inc. v. Rylander,

**et al.** Cause #GN201022 AG Case #021588694

Sales Tax; Refund & Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 03/28/02 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Period: 08/01/88 - 05/31/97 Scott, Douglass &

Amount: \$2,500,000.00 McConnico

Austin

Issue: Whether title passed to the federal government according to Plaintiff's contracts at the time Plaintiff took possession of the items, thus establishing the sale for resale exemption recognized in *Day & Zimmerman v. Calvert*. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

Status: Answer filed.

### Roadway Express, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN002831

AG Case #001357631

Sales Tax; Protest & Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 09/25/00 Plaintiff's Counsel: David Cowling Period: 04/01/88-05/31/92 Robert Lochridge

Amount: \$713,686.05 Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue

\$206,053.87 Dallas

Issue: Whether various equipment used by the Plaintiff with its trucks is exempt from use tax as tangible personal property sold to a common carrier for use outside the state. Alternatively, whether the equipment had been taxed as vehicle components under the interstate motor carrier tax and could not be taxed as "accessories." Alternatively, whether taxing 100% of the value of the equipment violates the Commerce Clause because of a lack of substantial nexus and of fair apportionment. Whether all tax was paid on Plaintiff's repair and remodeling contracts and capital assets. Plaintiff also seeks declaratory relief and attorneys' fees.

## Rollins & Rollins Enterprises, Inc., dba Country Kwik Stop v. Rylander, et al.

Cause #GN202097 AG Case #021640651

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Scott Simmons

Filed: 06/28/02

Period: 08/01/97-07/31/00 Plaintiff's Counsel: William T. Peckham

Amount: \$45,059.74 Austin

Issue: Whether Plaintiff is liable for tax on food sold from its convenience store area. Whether the Comptroller applied proper percentages for loss and waste.

Status: Answer filed.

## Sam Houston Race Park, Ltd. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN001096

AG Case #001294263

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Filed: 04/13/00

Period: 10/01/93-04/30/95 Plaintiff's Counsel: L.G. Skip Smith Amount: \$43,025.00 David H. Gilliland

Clark, Thomas & Winters

Austin

Issue: Whether Plaintiff's purchase of "totalizator" services, which provide betting information to accompany live pari-mutuel and simulcasts of pari-mutuel races, is not taxable as a data processing service. Whether totalizator services, if they are taxable, are exempt for resale as an integral part of Plaintiff's taxable amusement service.

Status: Answer filed.

## Sanchez, Hector and Sidney Fernald, et al. v. Southwestern Bell Telephone Co.

Cause #M-00-146 AG Case #011527892

Sales Tax; Class Action Asst. AAG Assigned: Gene Storie

Filed: 11/13/01

Period: Plaintiff's Counsel: William J. Tinning

Amount: \$ Portland

Issue: Whether SWBT is liable to class action plaintiffs for over-collection of tax. Comptroller to provide testimony on tax.

Status: Comptroller to provide testimony on tax.

## **Schmitz Industries, Inc. v. Sharp** Cause #95-15485

AG Case #96-436841

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Filed: 12/15/95

Period: 04/01/89-12/31/92 Plaintiff's Counsel: Charles E. Klein Amount: \$4,418 Attorney at Law

**Dallas** 

Issue: Plaintiff alleges that the audit assessment is wrong because some of the transactions in the sample period are not representative of Plaintiff's business, and some transactions include tax exempt molds, dies and patterns with a useful life of six months or less.

Status: Answer filed.

## Schoenborn & Doll Enterprises, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-07605

AG Case #99-1187592

Sales Tax; Protest & Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 07/01/99 Plaintiff's Counsel: Kevin W. Morse

Period: 07/01/95-05/31/97 Blazier, Christensen &

Amount: \$140,936.92 Bigelow Austin

Issue: Whether the portion of Plaintiff's gym membership fee allocated to aerobic training is included in Plaintiff's taxable amusement services. Whether the Comptroller improperly disregarded the rule addressing non-taxable aerobic and tanning services under the amusement services tax. Whether the Comptroller should have applied its detrimental reliance policy.

Status: Inactive. Plaintiff paying tax under pay-out agreement.

### Sears Roebuck & Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-04138

AG Case #99-1152398

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Filed: 04/08/99

Period: 10/01/88-12/31/91 Plaintiff's Counsel: David E. Cowling

Amount: \$1,792,421.59 Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue

**Dallas** 

Issue: Whether use tax is owed on catalogs printed and shipped from out-of-state. Whether any taxable use was made or any consideration received by plaintiff. Whether "distribution" is a taxable use and whether the Comptroller's rule identifying it as such is valid. Whether imposition of the tax violates the due process, commerce, or equal protection clauses. Alternatively, whether calculation of the tax as on the correct cost basis, whether tax should not be collected because the catalogs are "books," and whether penalty should be waived.

Status: Answer filed.

## Service Merchandise Co., Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-11572

AG Case #98-1063308

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Filed: 10/13/98

Period: 01/01/92-12/31/93 Plaintiff's Counsel: David E. Cowling

Amount: \$413,569 Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue

Dallas

Issue: Whether the purchase of sales catalogs printed out-of-state and shipped to Plaintiff's customers in Texas (at no charge to the customer) incur sales tax.

Status: Answer filed. On hold. Plaintiff filed bankruptcy in Tennessee on 03/25/99. Motion to dismiss set 05/07/01. Plaintiff filed motion to retain 04/25/01.

## **Southern Sandblasting and Coatings, Inc. v. Rylander, et al.** Cause #GN103910 AG Case #011532355

Sales Tax; Protest & Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 11/27/01 Plaintiff's Counsel: Gilbert J. Bernal, Jr.

Period: 01/01/95-12/31/98 Kirk R. Lyda

Amount: \$219,219.35 Stahl, Martens & Bernal

Austin

\$47.15

Issue: Whether plaintiff's grit, used in sandblasting vessels, and materials such as paint-gun parts, are exempt as materials used in repairing vessels. Whether denial of the exemption violates equal protection. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

Status: Discovery in progress.

# Southwest Food Processing & Refrigerated Services, aka Southwest Refrigerated Warehousing Services v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN103390

AG Case #011509668

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Filed: 10/15/01

Period: 01/01/96-12/31/99 Plaintiff's Counsel: H. Christopher Mott Amount: \$188,477.57 Krafsur Gordon Mott

El Paso

Issue: Whether plaintiff owes tax on electricity used to freeze food items.

Status: Answer filed.

# Southwest Pay Telephone Corp., Successor in Interest to Southwest Pay Telephone Systems, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #97-00684

AG Case #97-662434

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Filed: 01/17/97

Period: 03/01/91-12/31/94 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mary S. Dietz

Amount: \$117,600 Fulbright & Jaworski

Houston

Issue: Whether Plaintiff transferred "care, custody, and control" of telephone equipment to the customers of its public telephone service such that it could buy the equipment tax-free per Rule 3.344 (e).

Status: Inactive.

### Spaw-Glass, Inc. and Spaw Glass Construction Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-

06716

AG Case #99-1177965

Sales Tax; Protest & Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Scott Simmons

Filed: 06/11/99

Period: 04/01/93-03/31/96 Plaintiff's Counsel: Jasper G. Taylor, III 10/01/93-06/30/96 C. Rhett Shaver Fulbright & Jaworski

\$34,469.19 Houston

Issue: Whether Plaintiff is not subject to sales tax because it was a lump sum contractor on the transactions at issue. Whether penalty and interest should be waived.

Status: Settlement agreement signed. Payment schedule completed. Awaiting signature of Agreed Judgment.

## Sprint International Communications, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #96-14298

AG Case #96-637296

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Filed: 11/22/96

Period: 02/01/86-01/31/90 Plaintiff's Counsel: Wallace M. Smith Amount: \$1,269,474 Donald L. Stuart

R. Kemp Kasling
Drenner & Stuart

Austin

Issue: Whether networking services are taxable as telecommunications services.

Status: Discussions in progress.

## Steamatic of Austin, Inc., et al. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN200631

AG Case #021567771

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Filed: 02/25/02

Period: 04/01/91-04/30/94 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Amount: \$103,335.27 Ray Langenberg

Ray Langenberg Scott, Douglass &

McConnico Austin Issue: Whether plaintiff is entitled to a tax refund for repairs to tangible personal property on the grounds that such repairs were for casualty losses exempt under the Comptroller's Rule 3.357 and 3.310. Whether the claim is barred by limitations. Whether the Comptroller improperly changed the rule on casualty losses.

Status: Answer filed.

### Summit Photographix, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN001808

AG Case #001323633

Sales Tax; Declaratory Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Judgment

Filed: 06/23/00 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark D. Hopkins Period: 01/01/94-12/31/96 Fields & Hopkins

Amount: \$6,532,000 Austin

Hilary Thomas

Kondos & Kondos Law

Offices Richardson

Issue: Whether Plaintiff is a direct sales company and may be regarded as a retailer for sales made by independent retailers of business start-up kits. Whether the Comptroller's rule defining direct sales organizations violates due process. Whether §151.024 was applied retroactively. Whether the items at issue are not taxable tangible personal property. Whether the Comptroller erred in basing the assessment on the suggested retail price of all issued items. Whether penalty and interest should be waived. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

Status: Answer filed.

# Sysco Food Services of Houston, L.P. (f/k/a Sysco Food Service of Houston, Inc.) v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN100633

AG Case #011420734

Sales Tax; Refund & Asst. AAG Assigned: Nicole Galwardi

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 03/01/01 Plaintiff's Counsel: Judy M. Cunningham

Period: 01/01/94-12/31/96 Austin

Amount: \$196,492.74

Issue: Whether electricity used to lower the temperature of food products is exempt as electricity used in processing. Whether equipment is exempt for the same reason.

Status: Discovery in progress.

### TCCT Real Estate, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-11647

AG Case #991219239

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 10/06/99 Plaintiff's Counsel: David Cowling Period: 10/01/91-03/31/93 Robert Lochridge

Amount: \$146,484.05 Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue

**Dallas** 

Issue: Whether Plaintiff sold electricity for commercial use when it obtained electrical service under a management agreement for another company which used the electricity in manufacturing or processing. Whether the exemption for electricity used in manufacturing requires the purchaser of electricity to be the user. Whether Plaintiff can be held as a seller of electricity in violation of the TPURA. Whether Plaintiff's right to equal and uniform taxation has been violated. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

Status: Answer filed.

# TCCT Real Estate, Inc. as Successor to TCC Austin Industrial Overhead v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-11648

AG Case #99-1219221

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 10/05/99 Plaintiff's Counsel: David Cowling Period: 07/01/89-12/31/91 Robert Lochridge

Amount: \$479,719.44 Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue

**Dallas** 

Issue: Whether Plaintiff sold electricity for commercial use when it obtained electrical service under a management agreement for another company which used the electricity in manufacturing or processing. Whether the exemption for electricity used in manufacturing requires the purchaser of electricity to be the user. Whether Plaintiff can be held as a seller of electricity in violation of the TPURA. Whether Plaintiff's right to equal and uniform taxation has been violated. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

Status: Discovery in progress.

## TDI-Halter, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN100339

AG Case #011409653

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Filed: 02/01/01

Period: 01/01/93-06/30/96 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Amount: \$475,000 Ray Langenberg

Ray Langenberg
Eric Hagenswold
Scott, Douglass &
McConnico

Austin

Issue: Whether conversion of drilling rigs to self-propelled, deep water rigs is manufacturing under the statute and Comptroller rules. Whether dredging is non-taxable maintenance of real property. Alternatively, whether interest should be waived.

Status: Answer filed.

Telecable Associates, Inc.; Teleservice Corp. of America; Texas Telecable, Inc.; TCA Cable of Amarillo, Inc.; and Texas Community Antennas, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN100705

AG Case #011422482

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Scott Simmons

Filed: 03/07/01

Period: 03/01/93-12/31/96 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Amount: \$400,000 Ray Langenberg

Scott, Douglass &

McConnico Austin

Issue: Whether cable equipment on the customer's premises qualifies for the sale for resale exemption for property used to provide a taxable service.

Status: Discovery in progress.

## Tennessee Gas Pipeline Co. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-09521

03-02-00029-CV AG Case #98-1022296

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Filed: 08/25/98

Period: 01/01/94-04/03/96 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ron Patterson

Amount: \$85,430 Kliewer, Breen, Garaton,

Patterson & Malone, Inc.

San Antonio

Issue: Plaintiff contends that because it operates a common-carrier pipeline and is a certificated or licensed carrier of property it may avoid sales tax on repair, remodeling, and maintenance services purchased in connection with the maintenance and repair of aircraft Plaintiff owns and uses in operating its common-carrier pipeline.

Status: Summary Judgment granted in Comptroller's favor 10/04/01. Plaintiff filed Motion for New Trial 11/05/01. Plaintiff appealed. Third Court of Appeals affirmed District Court's decision on 06/13/02. Appellant filed Motion for Rehearing 06/28/02.

## Texaco, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN201543

AG Case #021613625

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Scott Simmons

Filed: 05/10/02

Period: 05/01/87-12/31/90 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Amount: \$157,090.20 Ray Langenberg

Ray Langenberg Doug Sigel

Doug Sigei

Scott, Douglass & McConnico

Austin

Issue: Plaintiff claims that interest should be offset or waived for a period before a refund was made to a subsidiary.

Status: Answer filed.

Texas Gulf, Inc. v. Bullock, et al. Cause #485,228

AG Case #90-311185

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Jana Kinkade

Filed: 06/05/90

Period: 01/01/85 - 06/30/88 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ira A. Lipstet
Amount: \$294,000 Jenkins & Gilchrist

Austin

Issue: Are pipes exempt as manufacturing equipment or taxable as intra plant transportation.

Status: State's plea to the jurisdiction denied. Discovery and settlement negotiations in progress.

## Texas Instruments, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN103526

AG Case #011523420

Sales Tax; Refund & Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 10/24/01 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Period: 07/01/87-12/31/90 Ray Langenberg Amount: \$27,000,000 Doug Sigel

Curtis J. Osterloh Scott, Douglass & McConnico Austin

Issue: Whether title passed to the federal government according to Plaintiff's contracts at the time Plaintiff took possession of the items, thus establishing the sale for resale exemption recognized in *Day & Zimmerman v. Calvert*. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

Status: Answer filed.

Texas Instruments, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN103527

AG Case #011523438

Sales Tax; Refund & Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 10/24/01 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman

Period: 01/01/91-07/31/97 Ray Langenberg Amount: \$102,000,000 Doug Sigel

Curtis J. Osterloh Scott, Douglass & McConnico

Austin

Issue: Whether title passed to the federal government according to Plaintiff's contracts at the time Plaintiff took possession of the items, thus establishing the sale for resale exemption recognized in *Day & Zimmerman v. Calvert*. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

Status: Answer filed.

## Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Corp. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-06997

AG Case #99-1178526

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Jana Kinkade

Filed: 06/17/99

Period: 03/93-05/95 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ron Patterson

Amount: \$112,684.43 Kliewer, Breen, Garatoni,

Patterson & Malone

Austin

Michael R. Garatoni Kliewer, Breen, Garatoni,

Patterson & Malone

San Antonio

Issue: Whether Plaintiff, a common carrier gas pipeline operator, may claim a sales and use tax exemption on its purchase of an airplane. Whether airplane repair and replacement parts are exempt.

Status: Answer filed.

## Union Carbide Corp. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN000580

AG Case #001261452

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Filed: 01/13/00

Period: 01/01/89-12/31/92 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Amount: \$575,857.40 Ray Langenberg

Ray Langenberg Curtis Osterloh Scott, Douglass & McConnico

Austin

Issue: Whether Plaintiff is entitled to an exemption on labor charges for installing floating roofs on tanks at its chemical plant because: (1) the roofs are exempt pollution control equipment, (2) the labor was for non-taxable new construction, or (3) the labor was for remodeling of tangible personal property.

Status: Answer filed.

## Unit 82 Joint Venture v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN001888

AG Case #001327964

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Scott Simmons

Filed: 07/03/00

Period: 07/01/93-12/31/96 Plaintiff's Counsel: H. Christopher Mott

Amount: \$44,519.03 Krafsur Gordon Mott Davis

& Woody El Paso

Issue: Whether Plaintiff's initial finish-out work is non-taxable new construction.

Status: Discovery in progress. Negotiations in progress. Reviewing plaintiff's offer of settlement.

## United Services Automobile Association v. Sharp, et al. Cause #97-02927

AG Case #97-694793

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Filed: 03/10/97

Period: 02/01/91-07/31/94 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Amount: \$656.667 Ray Langenberg

Ray Langenberg Scott, Douglass &

McConnico Austin Issue: Whether certain professional and leak detection services are taxable. Whether tax is due on material printed out-of-state and mailed directly to Texas customers.

Status: Partial settlement.

# United Services Automobile Association & USAA Life Insurance Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN103414

AG Case #011509643

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Gene Storie

Filed: 10/16/01

Period: 02/01/91-12/31/99 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Amount: \$200,000,000+ Ray Langenberg

Scott, Douglass & McConnico
Austin

Issue: Whether plaintiffs are exempt from sales taxes because of Tex. Ins. Code arts. 4.10 and 4.11.

Status: Defendants' plea to the jurisdiction set 05/01/02. Summary Judgment for Defendants granted 05/13/02.

## **USA Waste Services of Houston, Inc. v. Rylander, et al.** Cause #GN003453

AG Case #001388065

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Scott Simmons

Filed: 12/01/00

Period: 01/01/94-03/31/97 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Amount: \$14,016.28 Ray Langenberg

Eric Hagenswold
Scott, Douglass &
McConnico

Austin

Issue: Whether steam cleaning done for Plaintiff's customers by a third party is a sale for resale as an integral part of Plaintiff's taxable waste removal services.

Status: Discovery initiated.

## Waller Hotel Group, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-03990

AG Case #98-939849

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Jana Kinkade

Filed: 04/16/98

Amount: \$51,614

Period: 03/01/91-08/31/94 Plaintiff's Counsel: Gilbert J. Bernal, Jr.

Stahl, Martens & Bernal

Austin

Mark Cohen Attorney at Law

Austin

Issue: Whether purchases of gas and electricity at Plaintiff's hotel were exempt as residential use, based on a utility study conducted by Plaintiff's expert.

Status: Discovery in progress. Case on hold.

## West Texas Pizza, Limited Partnership v. Sharp, et al. Cause #96-11751

AG Case #96-611633

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Filed: 09/27/96

Period: 06/01/88-06/30/92 Plaintiff's Counsel: Richard L. Rothfelder Amount: \$35,247 Milissa M. Magee

Milissa M. Magee Kirkendall, Isgur &

Rothfelder Houston

Issue: Whether prizes obtained by collecting tickets from amusement machines in a restaurant are "purchased" by the customer as part of the price of the food.

Status: Discovery in progress.

### Westar Hotels, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #97-06182

AG Case #97-743945

Sales Tax: Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Filed: 05/23/97

Period: 11/01/90-07/31/94 Plaintiffs Counsel: Gilbert J. Bernal, Jr. Amount: \$73,827

Stahl, Martens & Bernal

Austin

Issue: Whether Plaintiff owes tax on electricity used in its hotels.

Status: Discovery in progress.

## World Fitness Centers, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN201795

AG Case #021626239

Sales Tax; Refund Scott Simmons Asst. AAG Assigned:

Filed: 05/30/02

Period: 09/01/94-05/31/98 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ray Bonilla

Amount: \$273,005.56 Ray, Wood & Bonilla

Austin

Issue: Whether plaintiff owes sales tax on the discount and reserve amounts of its factored contracts when plaintiff is a cash-basis taxpayer.

Status: Answer filed.

### **Zale Delaware, Inc. v. Rylander, et al.** Cause #GN202030

AG Case #021640669

Blake Hawthorne Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned:

Filed: 06/24/02

Period: 08/01/92-02/28/97 Plaintiffs Counsel: Mark W. Eidman

Amount: \$ Ray Langenberg

Scott, Douglass & McConnico

Austin

Issue: Whether Plaintiff is liable for tax on items temporarily stored in Texas. Whether tax on services purchased by Plaintiff should be reduced to reflect the out-of-state benefit of those services. Whether Plaintiff should get a refund or credit for tax paid on inventory. Whether the Comptroller should be barred from off-setting debts in the period between the filing of Plaintiff's bankruptcy petition and the confirmation of its reorganization plan.

Status: Answer filed.

### Insurance Tax

All American Life Insurance Co., et al. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #98-00195

#03-00-427-CV AG Case #98-880394

Amount: \$276,151

Insurance Premium & Asst. AAG Assigned: Gene Storie

Insurance Maintenance Tax;

Protest Plaintiff's Counsel: Barry K. Bishop

Filed: 01/07/98 Clark, Thomas & Winters

Period: 1991-1994 Austin

(Premium) Dudley D. McCalla

\$4,804 (Maintenance) Heath, Davis & McCalla

Austin

Jay A. Thompson

Thompson, Coe, Cousins &

Irons Austin

Issue: Whether certain transactions called "internal rollover" by Plaintiffs, consisting of substituting one insurance policy for a prior policy and transferring funds, result in gross premiums subject to tax.

Status: Trial set 01/18/00. Judgment for State signed 03/22/00. Plaintiff's filed request for findings of fact and conclusions of law 04/06/00. Plaintiffs filed notice of appeal. Appellants' brief filed 09/29/00. Appellees' brief due 12/01/00. Oral argument held 01/24/01. Reversed and remanded 08/30/01. State filed petition for review with Texas Supreme Court 10/15/01. The Comptroller's brief on the merits filed 02/19/02. Respondents' brief on the merits and Comptroller's reply brief filed. Petition denied and ordered that the Court of Appeals opinion be released for publication. The parties will consider whether agreement can be reached on the amounts in issue.

*All American Life Insurance Co. v. Sharp, et al.* Cause #98-07917 (Consolidated with Cause #98-00195, *All American Life Insurance Co., et al. v. Sharp, et al.*)
AG Case #98-1001902

Gross Premium Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Gene Storie

Filed: 07/24/98

Period: 1994-1996 Plaintiff's Counsel: Dudley D. McCalla

Amount: \$29,169 Heath, Davis & McCalla

Austin

Issue: Whether certain transactions called "internal rollover" by Plaintiffs, consisting of substituting one insurance policy for a prior policy and transferring funds, result in gross premiums subject to tax.

Status: Consolidated with Cause #98-00195, All American Life Insurance Co., et al. v. Sharp, et al.

## Allianz Underwriters Insurance Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN000663

AG Case #001280114

Insurance Premium Tax; Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Protest, Injunction &

Declaratory Judgment Plaintiff's Counsel: Stephen L. Phillips Filed: 03/02/00 Brian C. Newby

Period: 01/01/90-12/31/95 Julie K. Lane

Amount: \$365,506.54 Cantey & Hanger, Roan &

Autrey Austin

Issue: Whether Plaintiff, an eligible surplus lines insurer, owes tax for unauthorized insurance. Whether tax should have been collected from the surplus lines agent or from the insured. Whether the Comptroller's assessment is contrary to the McCarran-Ferguson Act and constitutional due process. Whether the Comptroller has authority to assess taxes due before 09/01/93. Whether the Comptroller's rule on penalty and interest is arbitrary and capricious. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

Status: Discovery in progress. Settlement negotiations pending.

## Allmerica Financial Life Insurance Co. and Annuity Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause

#GN001378

AG Case #001304807

Insurance Premium Tax; Asst. AAG Assigned: Gene Storie

Protest & Declaratory

Judgment Plaintiff's Counsel: Steven D. Moore

Filed: 05/10/00 Jackson Walker L.L.P.

Period: 1992-1995 Austin

T CHOU. 1772-1773

Amount: \$190,352.89

\$43,715.28

Issue: Whether premium taxes are owed on internal rollover transactions. Plaintiff also seeks declaratory judgment under the UDJA and APA and attorneys' fees.

Status: Answer filed. Should be resolved as for All American Life Insurance, et al. v. Sharp, et al.

## American Bankers Insurance Co. of Florida, et al. v. Ann Richards, et al. Cause

#396,975

AG Case #86-1483

Gross Premium Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

& Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 05/08/86 Plaintiff's Counsel: Fred B. Werkenthin Period: 1985-1988 Jackson & Walker

Amount: \$1,745,569 Austin

Issue: Whether Tex. Ins. Code art. 4.10 unconstitutionally discriminates against foreign property and casualty companies by basing the premium tax rate on their percentage of Texas investments (equal protection). (Pleadings refer to art. 4.10, but protest letters refer to arts. 4.11 and 21.46.) Also seeks recovery and attorneys' fees pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §1983.

Status: Inactive.

American General Life Insurance Co., American National Life Insurance Co., and American National Insurance Co. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-13996 (Consolidated with Cause #98-00195, All American Life Insurance Co., et al. v. Sharp, et al.)
AG Case #99-1093402

Maintenance & Gross Asst. AAG Assigned: Gene Storie

Premium Tax; Refund

Filed: 12/16/98 Plaintiff's Counsel: Dudley D. McCalla Period: 01/01/91-12/31/94 Heath, Davis & McCalla

Amount: \$204.695.81 Austin

Issue: Whether "internal rollovers" of existing life insurance policies result in gross premiums subject to tax.

Status: Consolidated with Cause #98-00195, All American Life Insurance Co., et al. v. Sharp, et al.

## American International Specialty Lines Insurance Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause

#GN002666

AG Case #001351998

Insurance Premium Tax; Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Protest & Declaratory

JudgmentPlaintiff's Counsel:Anthony IcenogleFiled: 09/08/00Joseph C. BogginsPeriod: 1995DeLeon & Boggins

Amount: \$362,975.97 Austin

Issue: Whether an authorized surplus lines insurer is required to pay unauthorized insurance tax when the Comptroller is unable to verify payment of tax by the agent. Whether the Comptroller wrongfully relied on another hearings decision as precedent. Plaintiff also seeks injunctive and declaratory relief and attorneys' fees.

Status: Discovery in progress. Consolidated with *Lexington Insurance Co. and Landmark Insurance Co. v. Rylander, et al.* Summary Judgment motions set 08/01/02.

## Federal Home Life Insurance Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-06142

AG Case #99-1173279

Retaliatory Tax; Protest & Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 05/26/99 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ron K. Eudy

Period: 1998 Sneed, Vine & Perry

Amount: \$9,328.01 Austin

Issue: Whether retaliatory insurance tax was improperly assessed because there is no similar Texas insurance company licensed and actually doing business in plaintiff's home state which paid more aggregate taxes than plaintiff. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

Status: Settled.

## Fireman's Fund Insurance Co. of Ohio v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN101899

AG Case #011464476

Insurance Premium Tax; Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Protest & Declaratory

JudgmentPlaintiff's Counsel:Stephen L. PhillipsFiled: 06/20/01Brian C. NewbyPeriod: 1992-1998Julie K. Lane

Amount: \$439,074.12 Cantey & Hanger, Roan &

Autry Austin Issue: Whether Plaintiff, an authorized surplus lines insurer, is liable for unauthorized insurance premiums tax. Whether the Comptroller lacks authority to determine that Plaintiff is an unauthorized insurer, and whether the Texas Department of Insurance is required to make that determination. Whether the Comptroller engaged in selective and improper enforcement. Whether the assessment violates Due Process and the McCarran-Ferguson Act. Alternatively, whether penalty should be waived. Plaintiff also seeks injunctive relief and attorneys' fees.

Status: Answer filed.

# GE Life and Annuity Assurance Co., f/k/a Life Insurance Co. of Virginia v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-06145

AG Case #99-1173097

Retaliatory Tax; Protest & Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 05/26/99 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ron K. Eudy

Period: 1998 Sneed, Vine & Perry

Amount: \$59,574.64 Austin

Issue: Whether retaliatory insurance tax was improperly assessed because there is no similar Texas insurance company licensed and actually doing business in plaintiff's home state which paid more aggregate taxes than plaintiff. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

Status: Settled.

## General Electric Capital Assurance Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-06144

AG Case #99-1173295

Retaliatory Tax; Protest & Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 05/26/99 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ron K. Eudy

Period: 1998 Sneed, Vine & Perry

Amount: \$46,658.03 Austin

Issue: Whether retaliatory insurance tax was improperly assessed because there is no similar Texas insurance company licensed and actually doing business in plaintiff's home state which paid more aggregate taxes than plaintiff. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

Status: Settled.

### Great Northern Insured Annuity Corp. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-06146

AG Case #99-1173089

Retaliatory Tax; Protest & Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 05/26/99 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ron K. Eudy

Period: 1998 Sneed, Vine & Perry

Amount: \$8,459.31 Austin

Issue: Whether retaliatory insurance tax was improperly assessed because there is no similar Texas insurance company licensed and actually doing business in plaintiff's home state which paid more aggregate taxes than plaintiff. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

Status: Settled.

### Harvest Life Insurance Co., The v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-06147

AG Case #99-1173063

Retaliatory Tax; Protest & Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 05/26/99 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ron K. Eudy

Period: 1998 Sneed, Vine & Perry

Amount: \$26,640.79 Austin

Issue: Whether retaliatory insurance tax was improperly assessed because there is no similar Texas insurance company licensed and actually doing business in plaintiff's home state which paid more aggregate taxes than plaintiff. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

Status: Settled.

## Heritage Life Insurance Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-06148

AG Case #99-1172958

Retaliatory Tax; Protest & Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 05/26/99 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ron K. Eudy

Period: 1998 Sneed, Vine & Perry

Amount: \$10,987.86 Austin

Issue: Whether retaliatory insurance tax was improperly assessed because there is no similar Texas insurance company licensed and actually doing business in plaintiff's home state which paid more aggregate taxes than plaintiff. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

Status: Settled.

**IDS Life Insurance Co. v. Rylander, et al.** Cause #99-13368 (Consolidated with Cause #98-00195, All American Life Insurance Co., et al. v. Sharp, et al.)

AG Case #99-1238965

Insurance Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Gene Storie

Filed: 11/16/99

Period: 1995-1998 Plaintiff's Counsel: Jay A. Thompson

Amount: \$234,383.82 Thompson, Coe, Cousins &

\$2,039.79 Irons Austin

Issue: Whether certain transactions called "internal rollover" by Plaintiffs, consisting of substituting one insurance policy for a prior policy and transferring funds, result in gross premiums subject to tax.

Status: Consolidated with Cause #98-00195, All American Life Insurance Co, et al. v. Sharp, et al.

## Lexington Insurance Co., Landmark Insurance Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause

#GN100569

AG Case #011417896

Insurance Premium Tax; Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Protest & Declaratory

JudgmentPlaintiff's Counsel:Anthony IcenogleFiled: 02/22/01Joseph C. BogginsPeriod: 1992-1995De Leon & Boggins

Amount: \$1,596,196.63 Austin

\$36,174.92

Issue: Whether an authorized surplus lines insurer is required to pay unauthorized insurance tax when the Comptroller is unable to verify payment of tax by the agent. Whether the Comptroller wrongfully relied on another hearings decision as precedent. Plaintiff also seeks injunctive and declaratory relief and attorneys' fees.

Status: Discovery in progress. Summary Judgment motions set 08/01/02.

## Liberty National Life Insurance Co. v. Martha Whitehead, et al. Cause #93-08432

AG Case #93-311009

Retaliatory Tax; Protest & Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 07/15/93 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ron Eudy

Period: 1990-1992 Sneed, Vine & Perry

Amount: \$54,511 Austin

Issue: Whether art. 21.46 retaliatory tax has been properly applied to Plaintiff's tax rates in Texas and Alabama, and whether the tax violates equal taxation and equal protection. (Also Plaintiff seeks recovery under the Declaratory Judgments Act and 42 U.S.C. §1983 including attorneys' fees.)

Status: Settled.

# Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., et al. v. A.W. Pogue, et al. Cause #484,745 AG Case #90-304512

Gross Premium Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Gene Storie

Filed: 05/24/90

Period: 1985-1986 Plaintiff's Counsel: Fred B. Werkenthin 1989-1992 Jackson & Walker

Amount: \$1,848,606 Austin

Issue: Whether insurance taxes are owed by insurance companies on dividends applied to paid-up additions and renewal premiums.

Status: 9th Amended Petition filed. Settlement discussed, and partial settlement agreed to. Final judgment signed on paid-up additions issue. Renewal premium issue severed and retained on docket.

# *Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., et al. v. A.W. Pogue, et al.* Cause #484,796 AG Case #90-304503

Maintenance Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Gene Storie

Filed: 05-23-90

Period: 1989-1991 Plaintiff's Counsel: Fred B. Werkenthin Amount: \$1,616,497 Jackson & Walker

Austin

Issue: Whether Tex. Ins. Code art. 21.07-6 is preempted by ERISA.

Status: One Plaintiff has submitted documentation supporting a refund. Case will be concluded in accordance with *NGS v. Barnes*, 998 F.2d 296 (5th Cir. 1993). Severance and final judgment entered for Metropolitan. Awaiting documentation for other Plaintiffs.

## Philadelphia Life Insurance Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN101330

AG Case #011439866

Insurance Premium & Gross Asst. AAG Assigned: Scott Simmons

Premium Tax; Protest

Filed: 05/02/01 Plaintiff's Counsel: Kevin F. Lee
Period: 1992-1996 Michael W. Jones

Amount: \$466,381.65 Thompson, Coe, Cousins &

Irons Austin

Issue: Whether certain transactions called "internal rollover" by Plaintiffs, consisting of substituting one insurance policy for a prior policy and transferring funds, result in gross premiums subject to tax.

Status: Answer filed.

## Principal Life Insurance Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-06141

AG Case #99-1173105

Retaliatory Tax; Refund & Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 05/26/99 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ron K. Eudy

Period: 1998 Sneed, Vine & Perry

Amount: \$256,577.79 Austin

Issue: Whether retaliatory insurance tax was improperly assessed because there is no similar Texas insurance company licensed and actually doing business in plaintiff's home state which paid more aggregate taxes than plaintiff. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

Status: Settled.

## **Security National Insurance Co. v. Rylander, et al.** Cause #GN001503

AG Case #001310820

Insurance Premium Tax; Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

**Protest** 

Filed: 05/23/00 Plaintiff's Counsel: Jay A. Thompson

Period: 1995-1998 Thompson, Coe, Cousins &

Amount: \$1,226,220.50 Irons
Austin

Barry K. Bishop

Clark, Thomas & Winters

Austin

Issue: Whether daily negative bank account balances should be adjusted to \$0 to compute the proper percentage of Texas investments for gross premiums tax.

Status: Answer filed.

## Southwestern Life Insurance Co. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-11945

AG Case #98-1065840

Gross Premium Asst. AAG Assigned: Gene Storie

Maintenance Tax; Protest

Filed: 10/22/98 Plaintiff's Counsel: L.G. Skip Smith

Period: 01/01/92-12/31/95 Clark, Thomas & Winters

Amount: \$392,737 Austin

Issue: Whether certain transactions called "internal rollover" by Plaintiffs, consisting of substituting one insurance policy for a prior policy and transferring funds, result in gross premiums subject to tax.

Status: Answer filed. Will be determined as for *All American Life Insurance Co, et al. v. Sharp, et al.* 

## Southwestern Life Insurance Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN000875

AG Case #001288869

Gross Premium Maintenance Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Tax; Protest & Refund

Filed: 03/24/00 Plaintiff's Counsel: L.G. Skip Smith Period: 01/01/96-12/31/98 David H. Gilliland

Amount: \$384,446.75 Clark, Thomas & Winters

Austin

Issue: Whether certain transactions called "internal rollover" by Plaintiffs, consisting of substituting one insurance policy for a prior policy and transferring funds, result in gross premiums subject to tax.

Status: On hold pending outcome of All American Life Insurance v. Rylander, et al.

### St. Paul Surplus Lines Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN102788

AG Case #011490877

Insurance Premium Tax; Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Refund, Protest &

Declaratory Judgment Plaintiff's Counsel: Michael W. Jones

Filed: 08/24/01 Kevin F. Lee

Period: 01/01/95-12/31/98 Austin

Amount: \$163,021.27

Richard S. Geiger

**Dallas** 

Thompson, Coe, Cousins &

Irons

Issue: Whether Plaintiff, an eligible surplus lines insurer, is liable for unauthorized insurance tax. Plaintiff also seeks declaratory relief and attorney's fees.

Status: Answer filed.

### State Farm Life Insurance Co. v. Cornyn, et al. Cause #99-07980

AG Case #99-1187642

Gross Premium Tax; Protest, Asst. AAG Assigned: Christine Monzingo

Refund & Declaratory

Judgment Plaintiff's Counsel: Michael W. Jones

Filed: 07/13/99 Thompson, Coe, Cousins &

Irons Austin

Period: 1990 1992

1994

Amount: \$1,027,067.59

\$395,949.71 \$294,607.28

Issue: Whether Plaintiff's debt instruments are mortgage loans or corporate bonds or other obligations for purposes of its Texas investments allocation. Whether Plaintiff's interests in limited partnerships qualified as real estate investments. Whether allocation of quarterly U.S. bond holdings was proper. Whether calculation of bank balances was proper. Alternatively, whether penalty should be waived. Plaintiff seeks attorneys' fees.

Status: Answer filed.

## Union Fidelity Life Insurance Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-06149

AG Case #99-1173006

Retaliatory Tax; Protest & Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 05/26/99 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ron K. Eudy

Period: 1998 Sneed, Vine & Perry

Amount: \$147,554.42 Austin

Issue: Whether retaliatory insurance tax was improperly assessed because there is no similar Texas insurance company licensed and actually doing business in plaintiff's home state which paid more aggregate taxes than plaintiff. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

Status: Settled.

### United American Insurance Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-06836

AG Case #99-1176355

Gross Premium Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Christine Monzingo

& Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 06/15/99 Plaintiff's Counsel: Sam R. Perry

Period: 1990-1996 Sneed, Vine & Perry

Amount: \$1,262,878.98 Austin

\$7,487.00

Issue: Whether Plaintiff's investment in a limited partnership which held Texas mineral interests qualifies as a Texas investment for purposes of reducing Plaintiff's gross premiums tax rate. Whether investments in limited partnerships should be treated the same as investments in corporations. Whether Plaintiff was denied equal protection under the federal or state constitutions. Plaintiff also asks for attorneys' fees.

Status: Plaintiff filed Motion for Summary Judgment. Discovery in progress.

### Universe Life Insurance Co. v. State of Texas Cause #97-05106

AG Case #97-727302

Insurance Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Gene Storie

Filed: 04/29/97

Period: 1993 Plaintiff's Counsel: Larry Parks

Amount: \$56,958 Long, Burner, Parks &

Sealey Austin

Issue: Whether plaintiff should be given credit against tax due for examination fees paid to the state in connection with a market conduct examination report ordered by the Texas Department of Insurance. Plaintiff also asks for penalty and interest waiver.

Status: Cross-motions for summary judgment heard 11/12/97. Summary judgment granted for Plaintiff. State has appealed. Case submitted without oral argument 07/06/98. Affirmed in part, reversed and remanded in part 03/11/99. State's motion for rehearing denied. Petition for review filed 06/01/99. Briefs on merits requested by Court. State's brief filed 10/18/99. Petition denied. Case remanded to trial court.

## Universe Life Insurance Co., The v. Cornyn, et al. Cause #GN002605

AG Case #001348580

Insurance Premium Tax; Asst. AAG Assigned: Gene Storie

Refund

Filed: 09/01/00 Plaintiff's Counsel: Larry Parks

Period: 1993 Long, Burner, Parks, 1994 McClellan & Delargy

Amount: \$87,288.51 Austin

\$426,620.38

Issue: Whether plaintiff should be given credit against tax due for examination fees paid to the state in connection with a market conduct examination report ordered by the Texas Department of Insurance. Plaintiff also asks for penalty and interest waiver.

Status: Answer filed.

## Warranty Underwriters Insurance Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-12271

AG Case #99-1226739

Insurance Tax: Protest & Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 10/20/99 Plaintiff's Counsel: Nanette K. Beaird Period: 1993-1997 Raymond E. White

1993-1997 Daniel Micciche

Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer Amount: \$416,462.73

\$214,893.74 & Feld

Austin

Issue: Whether the Comptroller improperly included amounts not received by Plaintiff in Plaintiff's gross premiums tax base. Whether any maintenance tax is payable on Plaintiff's business of home warranty insurance. Whether the Comptroller is bound by the prior actions and determinations of the Texas Department of Insurance. Whether the assessments of tax violate due process and equal taxation. Whether penalty and interest should have been waived.

Status: Informal discovery in progress. Case will go to mediation. On dismissal docket. Plaintiff filed Motion to Retain. Jury trial scheduled 08/12/02.

## Other Taxes

## **Buffalo ISD v. Comptroller** Cause #GV001433

AG Case #001376227

Property Tax; Administrative

Appeal & Injunction

Filed: 06/23/00 Plaintiff's Counsel: Roy L. Armstrong

Asst. AAG Assigned:

Period: 1999 Robert L. Meyers

Amount: \$ McCreary, Veselka, Bragg

& Allen Austin

Nicole Galwardi

Issue: Whether the Comptroller erred by not properly selecting and inspecting sample properties.

Status: Discovery in progress.

### Caldwell, Marcie v. Rylander Cause #99-13088

AG Case #99-1234329

Declaratory Judgment Tax; Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 11/08/99 Plaintiff's Counsel: Joe K. Crews
Period: 1992-Present Diane S. Jacobs
Amount: \$ Ivy, Crews & Elliott

Austin

Issue: Whether county court fees collected from persons who are convicted of any criminal offense are constitutional. Plaintiff seeks class action declaratory and injunctive relief to prevent Comptroller from collecting fees. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

Status: Plea to Jurisdiction denied 01/06/00. Preparing Interlocutory Appeal. Oral argument set 04/26/00. Trial court decision holding jurisdiction affirmed. Plaintiff waived all rights to refund of court costs. Summary Judgment filed. County Association Amicus brief filed.

## Castleberry ISD; Ennis ISD; Canyon ISD; La Porte ISD v. Comptroller Cause #96-

08010

AG Case #96-599817

Property Tax; Declaratory Asst. AAG Assigned: Gene Storie

Judgment

Filed: 07/11/96 Plaintiff's Counsel: Robert Mott
Period: 1994 Joseph Longoria

Amount: \$ Perdue, Brandon, Fielder,

Collins & Mott

Houston

Issue: Various issues concerning the validity of the Comptroller's property value study.

Status: Answer and Special Exception filed. Inactive. Settlement reached with Canyon ISD. Only La Porte ISD is now pending. LaPorte ISD has made a settlement offer. Discovery in progress.

### Centerville ISD v. Comptroller Cause #GV001431

AG Case #001376243

Property Tax; Asst. AAG Assigned: Nicole Galwardi

Administrative Appeal &

Injunction Plaintiff's Counsel: Roy L. Armstrong Filed: 06/23/00 Robert L. Meyers

Period: 1999 McCreary, Veselka, Bragg

Amount: \$ & Allen Austin/Waco

Issue: Whether the Comptroller erred by not properly selecting and inspecting sample properties.

Status: Settled.

#### Chevron USA, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #96-06931

AG Case #96-538704

Amount: \$157,463

Natural Gas Production Tax; Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Refund

Filed: 06/13/96 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Period: 08/18/90 Ray Langenberg

Ray Langenberg Scott, Douglass &

McConnico Austin Issue: Whether tax should have been assessed on Order 94 payments.

Status: Discussions in progress.

### Chrysler Financial Co., L.L.C. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-13243

AG Case #99-1238189

Motor Vehicle Tax; Refund

Filed: 11/12/99

Period: 10/01/90-11/30/96

Amount: \$3,405,494.49

Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman

Scott, Douglass &

McConnico Austin

David E. Otero

Akerman, Senterfitt &

Eidson Florida

Issue: Whether Plaintiff, as assignee of installment contracts with Chrysler dealers, is entitled to a refund under the bad debt credit provision in the sales tax for taxes on motor vehicles that were not paid by defaulting vehicle purchasers. Whether there is any rational basis to distinguish between vehicle sales and other sales or between vehicle rental receipts and vehicle sales receipts for purposes of bad debt relief.

Status: Motion to Detain filed by Plaintiff. Trial scheduled for 07/20/03.

# Cockrill, Charles T. v. Comptroller of Public Accounts, et al. Cause #CJ-00-308 AG Case #001368513

Property Tax; Declaratory Asst. AAG Assigned: Gene Storie

Judgment

Filed: 10/12/00 Plaintiff's Counsel: Douglas L. Jackson

Period: Vance T. Nye

Amount: \$99,425.50 Gungoll, Jackson, Collins,

Box & Devoll Enid, Oklahoma

Issue: Whether the Comptroller asserts any interest in art works that were sold by a taxpayer subject to a tax lien.

Status: Comptroller disclaims interest.

### **DeSoto ISD v. Comptroller of Public Accounts** Cause #GV102073

AG Case #011474624

Property Tax; Administrative Asst. AAG Assigned: Nicole Galwardi

Appeal

Filed: 07/27/01 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ray Bonilla

Period: 2000 Ray, Wood, Fine & Bonilla

Amount: \$ Austin

Issue: Whether the Comptroller erred by not properly selecting and inspecting sample properties.

Status: Discovery in progress.

#### **Deweyville ISD v. Rylander** Cause #GV001637

AG Case #001335355

Property Tax; Declaratory Asst. AAG Assigned: Nicole Galwardi

Judgment

Filed: 07/14/00 Plaintiff's Counsel: John H. Wofford
Period: 1999 Law Office of John H.

Amount: \$ Wofford

Austin

Issue: Whether the Comptroller erred by not properly selecting and inspecting sample properties. Whether the Comptroller failed to acknowledge local economic conditions, to timely provide a "clerical errors" report, and to accept additional information.

Status: Discovery in progress.

## El Paso Natural Gas Co. v. Sharp Cause #91-6309

AG Case #91-78237

Gas Production Tax; Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 05/06/91 Plaintiff's Counsel: Alfred H. Ebert, Jr. Period: 01/01/87 - 12/31/87 Andrews & Kurth

Amount: \$10,337,786 Houston

Issue: Whether Comptroller should have granted Plaintiff a hearing on penalty waiver and related issues.

Status: State's Plea in Abatement granted pending outcome of administrative hearing on audit liability.

Negotiations pending.

### Fort Davis ISD v. Comptroller Cause #GV001764

AG Case #001339852

Property Tax; Declaratory Asst. AAG Assigned: Nicole Galwardi

Judgment

Filed: 07/28/00 Plaintiff's Counsel: James R. Evans, Jr.

Period: 1999 Linebarger Heard Goggan
Amount: \$ Blair Graham Pena &

Sampson Austin

Issue: Whether the Comptroller erred by not properly selecting and inspecting sample properties. Whether the Comptroller failed to acknowledge local economic conditions, to timely provide a "clerical errors" report, and to accept additional information.

Status: Answer filed.

### Fort Worth PR's, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN200711

AG Case #021573480

Mixed Beverage Gross Asst. AAG Assigned: Jana Kinkade

Receipts Tax; Protest &

Declaratory Judgment Plaintiff's Counsel: John L. Gamboa

Filed: 03/04/02 Acuff, Gamboa & White

Period: 03/01/99-06/30/99 Fort Worth

Amount: \$36,177.36

Issue: Whether the Comptroller used a non-representative sample to determine plaintiff's tax liability. Whether depletion and error rates were calculated correctly.

Status: Answer filed.

## Gainesville ISD v. Comptroller of Public Accounts Cause #GV102071

AG Case #011474574

Property Tax; Administrative Asst. AAG Assigned: Jana Kinkade

Appeal

Filed: 07/27/01 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ray Bonilla

Period: 2000 Ray, Wood, Fine & Bonilla

Amount: \$ Austin

Issue: Whether the Comptroller erred by not properly selecting and valuing sample properties that involved creative financing.

Status: Discovery in progress.

#### Hernandez, Juan Luis v. Rylander, et al. Cause #C-294-00-G

AG Case #001365550

Declaratory Judgment Tax; Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 10/03/00 Plaintiff's Counsel: Kelly K. McKinnis

Period: 12/22/92 McAllen

Amount: \$24,451.35

\$33,252.57

Issue: Whether drug tax liens were mistakenly filed on Plaintiff.

Status: Set for dismissal for want of prosecution by court's motion on 03/19/02. Case retained by district court. Plaintiff filed Motion for Summary Judgment on 04/10/02. Defendants filed a Plea to the Jurisdiction and Cross-Motion for Motion for Summary Judgment on 04/17/02.

#### MFC Finance Co. of Texas v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN002653

AG Case #001352632

Motor Vehicle Sales Tax; Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Refund

Filed: 09/07/00 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Period: 01/01/96-12/31/98 Ray Langenberg Scott, Douglass &

McConnico

Austin

Issue: Whether Plaintiff is entitled to tax credit and refund as provided under the sales tax bad debt statute for motor vehicle taxes on installment sales where the purchaser defaulted. Whether the refusal to allow a refund violates equal taxation because there is no rational basis to treat installment sellers of vehicles differently than vehicle renters and other retailers.

Status: Answer filed.

#### MFN Financial Corp. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN002650

AG Case #001352129

Motor Vehicle Sales Tax; Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Refund

Filed: 09/07/00 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Period: 01/01/96-12/31/98 Ray Langenberg Amount: \$5,533,079.80 Scott, Douglass &

**McConnico** 

Issue: Whether Plaintiff is entitled to tax credit and refund as provided under the sales tax bad debt statute for motor vehicle taxes on installment sales where the purchaser defaulted. Whether the refusal to allow a refund violates equal taxation because there is no rational basis to treat installment sellers of vehicles differently than vehicle renters and other retailers.

Status: Answer filed.

#### Marathon Oil Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN000328

AG Case #001261395

Gas/Oil Production Tax; Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Refund & Declaratory

Judgment Plaintiff's Counsel: Hal K. Dickenson Filed: 01/10/00 Marathon Oil Co.

Period: 1994-1997 Houston

Amount: \$1,363,482.60

Issue: Whether the market value of oil for the production tax must be reduced by Plaintiff's marketing and processing costs. Whether taxing oil and gas production differently violates equal protection and uniform taxation. Whether the Comptroller's policy on allowable deductions is arbitrary and denies due process. Whether the Comptroller's policy is invalid because it was not adopted as a rule.

Status: Discovery in progress.

#### McLane Co., Inc. and McLane Foodservice-Lubbock, Inc. v. Rylander, et al.

Cause #GN104253 AG Case #021547393

Protest Tax; Protest, Asst. AAG Assigned: Gene Storie

Injunction & Declaratory

Judgment Plaintiff's Counsel: Gilbert J. Bernal, Jr. Filed: Kirk R. Lyda Period: David J. Sewell

Amount: \$1,173.83 & Stahl, Martens & Bernal

\$3,690.00 Austin

Issue: Whether the Comptroller must accept a letter of credit as security for Plaintiff's participation in

the cigarette tax trust fund.

Status: Discovery in progress. Trial set 11/12/02.

#### Mineola ISD v. Comptroller of Public Accounts Cause #GV102070

AG Case #011474616

Property Tax; Administrative Asst. AAG Assigned: Nicole Galwardi

Appeal

Filed: 07/27/01 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ray Bonilla

Period: 2000 Ray, Wood, Fine & Bonilla

Amount: \$ Austin

Issue: Whether the Comptroller erred by not properly valuing commercial personal properties.

Status: Discovery in progress.

### Mirage Real Estate, Inc., et al. v. Richard Durbin, et al. Cause #92-16485

AG Case #92-190294

Alcoholic Beverage Gross Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Receipts Tax; Declaratory

JudgmentPlaintiff's Counsel:Jim MattoxFiled: 12/03/92Lowell LasleyPeriod:Michael D. Mosher

Amount: \$

Issue: Whether the TABC and Comptroller were allowed to use inventory depletions analysis to determine amount of gross receipts tax owed. Plaintiffs seek class certification.

Status: Answer filed.

#### New Boston ISD v. Comptroller Cause #GV102003

AG Case #011479953

Property Tax; Administrative Asst. AAG Assigned: Jana Kinkade

Appeal & Injunction

Filed: 07/25/01 Plaintiff's Counsel: Kirk Swinney
Period: 2001 Harvey M. Allen

Amount: \$ McCreary, Veselka, Bragg

& Allen Austin

Issue: Whether the Comptroller erred by not properly selecting and inspecting sample properties.

Status: Discovery in progress. Motion for Summary Judgment hearing set 07/31/02. Trial set 08/19/02.

#### New Crew Quarters 2, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN002606

AG Case #001352111

Mixed Beverage Gross Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

Receipts Tax; Declaratory

Judgment Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Filed: 09/01/00 Ray Langenberg Period: 09/01/93-02/28/97 Curtis J. Osterloh Amount: \$216,325.07 Scott, Douglass & McConnico

Issue: Whether audit incorrectly assessed mixed beverage tax by failing to consider changes in inventory and periods of business closures. Whether 50% fraud penalty was incorrectly assessed where some of the Plaintiff's books and records were destroyed by fire. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

Status: Discovery in progress. Plaintiff has submitted several settlement offers. Collection action to be taken by Comptroller. Plaintiff filed Chapter 7 bankruptcy. Bankruptcy stay in effect.

#### Oakwood ISD v. Comptroller Cause #GV001432

AG Case #001376201

Property Tax; Administrative

Appeal & Injunction

Filed: 06/23/00 Period: 1999

Amount: \$

Asst. AAG Assigned: Nicole Galwardi

Plaintiff's Counsel: Roy L. Armstrong

Robert L. Meyers

McCreary, Veselka, Bragg

& Allen

Issue: Whether the Comptroller erred by not properly selecting and inspecting sample properties.

Status: Discovery in progress. Settled.

#### P.W. Jones Oil Co., Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #96-02941

AG Case #96-485280

Diesel Fuel Tax; Injunction

Filed: 03/12/96

Period: 1989-1993 Amount: \$176,959

Asst. AAG Assigned:

Plaintiff's Counsel:

Steve Rodriguez

John A. Leonard Russell & Leonard

Wichita Falls

Issue: Whether Plaintiff can rebut the presumption that the sale of diesel fuel is taxable. Plaintiff also asks for an injunction to stop collection action.

Status: Inactive.

# Preston Motors by George L. Preston, Owner v. Sharp, et al. Cause #91-11987

Asst. AAG Assigned:

AG Case #91-133170

Motor Vehicle Tax; Protest

Filed: 08/26/91

Period: 12/01/86 - 09/30/89

Plaintiff's Counsel:

George L. Preston

Jim Cloudt

Paris Amount: \$21,796

Issue: Whether motor vehicle tax should fall on dealer/seller rather than the purchaser under §152.044. Related constitutional issues.

Status: Inactive.

# Shelton, James M., Estate of, Deceased, and Carroll A. Maxon, Independent Co-Executor v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN104094

AG Case #021542261

Jana Kinkade Inheritance Tax: Protest & Asst. AAG Assigned:

Refund

Filed: 12/14/01 Plaintiff's Counsel: James F. Martens Period: Jessica Scott

Amount: \$1.616.018 Stahl, Martens & Bernal

Austin

Issue: Whether the IRS and Comptroller failed to give proper credit against the estate value for a pending lawsuit and administrative expenses.

Status: Answer filed.

#### **Uvalde ISD v. Comptroller of Public Accounts** Cause #GV102072

AG Case #011474582

Jana Kinkade Property Tax; Administrative Asst. AAG Assigned:

Appeal

Filed: 07/27/01 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ray Bonilla

Period: 2000 Ray, Wood, Fine & Bonilla

Amount: \$ Austin

Issue: Whether the Comptroller erred by not properly selecting and valuing sample properties that involved creative financing.

Status: Discovery in progress.

### Valentine ISD v. Comptroller Cause #GV001763

AG Case #001339860

Nicole Galwardi Property Tax; Administrative Asst. AAG Assigned:

Appeal

Filed: 07/28/00 Plaintiff's Counsel: James R. Evans, Jr.

Period: 1999 Linebarger Heard Goggan Blair Graham Pena & Amount: \$

Sampson

Issue: Whether the Comptroller erred by not properly selecting and valuing sample properties. Whether the Comptroller failed to consider local modifiers, sales, and market information.

Status: Answer filed.

# West Orange-Cove CISD, Coppell ISD, La Porte ISD, Port Neches-Groves ISD v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GV-100528

AG Case #011433026

Property Tax; Declaratory Asst. AAG Assigned: Nicole Galwardi

Judgment

Filed: 04/09/01 Plaintiff's Counsel: George W. Bramblett, Jr.

Period: Carrie L. Huff
Amount: \$ Haynes and Boone

Dallas

W. Wade Porter Haynes and Boone

Austin

Issue: Whether the \$1.50 cap on the school districts' maintenance and operations taxes creates an unconstitutional state property tax. Plaintiffs also seek attorneys' fees.

Status: Plea to the jurisdiction set 06/28/01. Plea granted. Case dismissed. Court of Appeals affirmed dismissal.

#### Closed Cases

#### American Standard, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #92-14483

AG Case #92-165918

Jana Kinkade Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned:

Filed: 10/13/92

Period: 01/01/90-12/31/90 Plaintiff's Counsel: Judy M. Cunningham

Amount: \$17,486 Attorney at Law

Austin

Issue: Whether conveyor belts are exempt machinery and equipment; unequal taxation; long-standing

policy.

Status: Agreed judgment - case settled.

#### American Telephone & Telegraph Co. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-06401

AG Case #98-980491

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Scott Simmons

Filed: 06/15/98

Period: 01/01/84-12/31/89 Plaintiff's Counsel: Jasper G. Taylor, III Amount: \$8,024,506 Fulbright & Jaworski

Houston

Issue: Whether the Comptroller's Office met its burden of proof with respect to the items assessed tax in Exams 9, 10, 12, 13, and 17. Whether Plaintiff's private line services are taxable telecommunications services and, if so, whether they were not subject to tax before 04/01/88.

Status: Trial setting passed. Settlement agreement signed. Payment schedule expected to be completed and Agreed Judgment signed in 07/02.

#### **Beef Products, Inc. v. Rylander, et al.** Cause #99-01193

AG Case #99-1112061

Franchise Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Christine Monzingo

Filed: 02/01/99

Period: 1992 and 1993 Plaintiff's Counsel: Tom Tourtellotte

Amount: \$331.040.60 Hance Scarborough Wright

Ginsberg & Brusilow

Austin

Issue: Whether the Comptroller properly applied the throw-back rule to apportion gross receipts under the pre-amended statute. Whether the throw-back rule violates the commerce clause. Whether the rule as applied is unconstitutionally retroactive and violates due process.

Status: Agreed Judgment to be entered per *Comptroller v. Fisher Controls International, Inc.* 

#### **BHC Co. v. Sharp, et al.** Cause #95-13037

AG Case #95-386479

Sales Tax: Protest Blake Hawthorne Asst. AAG Assigned:

Filed: 10/13/95

Period: 05/01/90-04/30/94 Plaintiff's Counsel: Richard Flint Amount: \$114.532 Pearson & Price Corpus Christi

Issue: Plaintiff contends that it is providing a single, integrated service, the management and operation of a manufacturing facility, which service is not taxable. Plaintiff contests the Comptroller's assessment of tax on maintenance charges, which Plaintiff considers to be one component of an "integrated nontaxable service."

Status: Dismissed for Want of Prosecution 05/21/02.

#### B.I. Moyle Associates, Inc. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-00907

AG Case #99-1108499

Sales Tax: Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Christopher Jackson

Filed: 01/26/99

Period: 04/01/91-03/31/95 Plaintiff's Counsel: G. Stewart Whitehead Winstead, Sechrest & Amount: \$51,711.94

Minick Austin

Issue: Whether taxpayer has substantial nexus with Texas to support imposition of sales and use taxes on its software licensed to Texas residents.

Status: Cross-motion for summary judgment filed. Settled. Dismissed with Prejudice 04/11/02.

#### Chevron Chemical Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN100963

AG Case #011431293

Franchise Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned:

Filed: 03/30/01

Period: 1987-1993 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman

Amount: \$

Ray Langenberg Scott, Douglass &

Christine Monzingo

McConnico Austin

Issue: Whether inclusion of unfunded post-retirement benefits (OPEBs) in franchise tax surplus violates ERISA. Whether Comptroller violated equal protection by allowing some to deduct OPEBs. Whether OPEBs are debt and whether their treatment in Section 171.109 is discriminatory.

Status: Agreed take-nothing judgment 12/18/01.

#### Dana Corp. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #96-03598

AG Case #96-494234

Franchise Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Filed: 3/28/96

Period: 1988-1991 Plaintiff's Counsel: David E. Cowling

Amount: \$804,971 Sheryl S. Scovell

Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue

Dallas

Issue: Whether certain reserve accounts, including post-retirement benefits, are debt for franchise tax purposes. Whether Tax Code §171.109 (j)(1) is preempted by ERISA.

Status: Non-suited 05/08/02.

#### **Dekalb ISD v. Comptroller** Cause #GV102002

AG Case #011479961

Property Tax; Administrative Asst. AAG Assigned: Jana Kinkade

Appeal & Injunction

Filed: 07/25/01 Plaintiff's Counsel: Kirk Swinney
Period: 2001 Harvey M. Allen

Amount: \$ McCreary, Veselka, Bragg

& Allen Austin Issue: Whether the Comptroller erred by not properly selecting and inspecting sample properties.

Status: Agreed Judgment signed 04/23/02.

#### Denmon's H2 Safety Services, Inc. v. Sharp Cause #98-10165

AG Case #98-1047269

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Filed: 09/09/98

Period: 07/01/92-01/31/96 Plaintiff's Counsel: Judy M. Cunningham

Amount: \$67,366 Attorney at Law

Austin

Issue: Whether tax is due on a charge for training employees and providing safety supervisors in hydrogen sulfide safety at well sites, where Plaintiff also rented equipment.

Status: Agreed Judgment granted 11/26/01.

#### Dow Chemical Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-05725

#03-00-354-CV; #01-0203 AG Case #99-1168444

Independently Procured Asst. AAG Assigned: Gene Storie

Insurance Tax; Protest

Filed: 05/17/99 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Period: 1991-1997 Ray Langenberg Scott, Douglass &

McConnico

Austin

Issue: Whether statute levying tax on independently procured insurance is unconstitutional under the *Todd Shipyards* case.

Status: Plaintiff's summary judgment motion filed. State's motion for summary judgment granted 04/06/00. Plaintiff filed notice of appeal. Dow's brief filed. Comptroller's brief filed. Argued 11/15/00. Reversed and rendered 01/25/01. Comptroller's petition filed 03/12/01. Response to petition filed 05/16/01. Comptroller's reply filed 05/31/01. Petition denied 06/07/01. Comptroller's petition for writ of certiorari filed 09/05/01. Cert. denied 10/29/01.

#### **Dow Chemical Co., The v. Rylander, et al.** Cause #GN002457

AG Case #001348606

Independently Procured Asst. AAG Assigned: Gene Storie

Insurance Tax: Protest

Filed: 08/22/00 Plaintiffs Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Period: 1998 & 1999 Ray Langenberg Amount: \$61,711.06

Scott, Douglass & McConnico .

Austin

Issue: Whether statute levying tax on independently procured insurance is unconstitutional under the Todd Shipyards case.

Status: Parties will file Agreed Judgment for plaintiff.

#### First Colony Life Insurance Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-06143

AG Case #99-1173287

Retaliatory Tax; Protest & Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 05/26/99 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ron K. Eudy

Period: 1998 Sneed, Vine & Perry

Amount: \$192,371.48 Austin

Issue: Whether retaliatory insurance tax was improperly assessed because there is no similar Texas insurance company licensed and actually doing business in plaintiff's home state which paid more aggregate taxes than plaintiff. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

Status: Case dismissed.

#### GATX Terminals Corp. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #96-10815

03-01-00537-CV AG Case #96-595679

Sales Tax: Refund Jim Cloudt Asst. AAG Assigned:

Filed: 09/06/96

Plaintiff's Counsel: Period: Ray Langenberg Amount: \$698,491

Scott, Douglass &

**McConnico** Austin

Issue: Various real property issues, including: whether repainting operations were repair and remodeling or periodic maintenance; whether the statute of limitations ran on a refund claim, where the statute had run on the vendor; whether work on a metering system was remodeling or new construction; whether Plaintiff is entitled to a refund of city taxes paid to Houston.

Status: Trial rescheduled for 05/15/01. Court ordered judgment for defendants 05/29/01. Notice of appeal filed 09/07/01. Appellants' brief due 12/31/01. Appellees' brief filed 01/25/02. Appellants' response filed 01/25/02. Oral argument held 02/27/02. Appellants' post-submission brief filed 03/12/02. Appellees' post-submission brief filed 03/14/02. Judgment for Comptroller affirmed 04/18/02. Comptroller's Motion for Rehearing granted 05/23/02. Substituted opinion issued 05/23/02.

#### GATX Terminals Corp. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-13414

AG Case #98-1085483

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Filed: 12/02/98

Period: 09/01/92-06/30/96 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Amount: \$125,330.40 Ray Langenberg

Ray Langenberg Scott, Douglass & McConnico

Austin

Issue: Whether certain activities are taxable real property repair and remodeling or non-taxable maintenance and, alternatively, whether penalty and interest should be waived.

Status: Consolidated with GATX Terminals Corp. v. Sharp, et al., Cause No. 96-10815.

#### Holzem, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #96-01041

AG Case #96-457827

Sales Tax; Declaratory Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Judgment

Filed: 01/26/96 Plaintiff's Counsel: Leland C. De La Garza Period: 07/01/88-03/31/92 De La Garza & Clark

Amount: \$229,930 Dallas

Issue: Whether Plaintiff's activities during the audit period constituted new construction or taxable repair and remodeling. Whether Plaintiff must pre-pay the tax.

Status: Dismissed for Want of Prosecution 05/09/02.

#### House of Lloyd, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #95-06985

AG Case #95-300365

Franchise Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Christine Monzingo

Filed: 06/05/95

Period: 1989-1991 Plaintiff's Counsel: Fred O. Marcus

Amount: \$19,825 Horwood, Marcus & Braun

Chicago

David E. Cowling

Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue

**Dallas** 

Issue: Whether the Texas franchise tax is a tax imposed on or measured by net income for purposes of Public Law 86-272; if so, Plaintiff contends that it is not subject to the Texas franchise tax. Whether Plaintiff is doing business in Texas. Whether post-retirement benefits should be included in taxable surplus.

Status: Agreed Judgment granted 05/29/02.

#### House of Lloyd, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #95-06986

AG Case #95-300338

Franchise Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Christine Monzingo

Filed: 06/05/95

Period: 1992 Plaintiff's Counsel: Fred O. Marcus

Amount: \$106.136 Horwood, Marcus & Braun

Chicago

David E. Cowling

Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue

Austin

Issue: Whether the Texas franchise tax is a tax imposed on or measured by net income for purposes of Public Law 86-272; if so, Plaintiff contends that it is not subject to the Texas franchise tax. Whether Plaintiff is doing business in Texas. Whether post-retirement benefits should be included in taxable surplus.

Status: Agreed Judgment granted 05/23/02.

#### Jett Racing and Sales, Inc. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #96-04721

AG Case #96-511242

Sales Tax; Declaratory Asst. AAG Assigned: Jim Cloudt

Judgment

Filed: 04/25/96 Plaintiff's Counsel: Judy M. Cunningham Period: 05/01/88-02/29/92

James D. Blume

Amount: \$105,491 Dallas

Issue: Whether the purchase of an airplane was exempt as a sale for resale.

Status: Dismissed for Want of Prosecution.

#### **L. D. Brinkman & Co., Inc. v. Sharp, et al.** Cause #95-06286

AG Case #95-289583

Sales Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Filed: 05/18/95

Period: 07/01/90-02/28/94 Plaintiff's Counsel: Charles L. Perry Amount: \$226,413 Arter & Hadden

Dallas

Issue: Plaintiff contends that inventory samples should not have been taxed because they were ultimately sold and tax was collected. Also, whether cardboard rolls and plastic wrapping are exempt under the manufacturing exemption.

Status: Dismissed for Want of Prosecution 05/20/02.

#### Painter, Lisa G. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN101804

AG Case #011459179

Jana Kinkade Sales Tax; Declaratory Asst. AAG Assigned:

Judgment

Plaintiff's Counsel: Filed: 06/12/01 Mark Eidman

Period: 02/01/96-03/31/98 Ray Langenberg Amount: \$21,074.28 Curtis Osterloh

Scott, Douglass & McConnico

Austin

Issue: Whether the Comptroller improperly applied sales tax to sales made out-of-state. Plaintiff also seeks attorney's fees.

Status: Agreed judgment.

#### Richland Development Corp. v. Comptroller, et al. Cause #96-09117

AG Case #96-573461

Franchise Tax; Protest and Asst. AAG Assigned: Christine Monzingo

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 08/01/96 Plaintiff's Counsel: Gerard A. Desrochers

Period: 1989-1991 Houston

Amount: \$1,031,003

Issue: Whether reimbursements to a subsidiary for services procured by the sub for the parent from third parties should be included in gross receipts. Whether post-retirement benefits should be deducted from surplus.

Status: Dismissed for Want of Prosecution 03/21/02.

#### Schlumberger Technology Corp. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN002484

AG Case #001348614

Franchise Tax; Refund & Asst. AAG Assigned: Christine Monzingo

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 08/23/00 Plaintiff's Counsel: Gerard A. Desrochers

Period: 1991 Houston

Amount: \$35,537

Issue: Whether Plaintiff's wage reserve accounts are debt for purposes of the franchise tax. Whether §171.109 is unconstitutional on its face and as applied on grounds of equal protection, equal taxation and due process. Plaintiff also seeks attorneys' fees.

Status: Dismissed for Want of Prosecution 03/21/02.

## Texas Workers' Compensation Insurance Facility v. Comptroller Cause #96-07940

AG Case #96-55551

Maintenance Tax; Asst. AAG Assigned: Gene Storie

Declaratory Judgment

Filed: 07/09/96 Plaintiff's Counsel: Frank Stenger-Castro

Period: 1992-1995 Fred Lewis
Amount: \$ Texas Workers'

Compensation Insurance

Facility Austin

Issue: Plaintiff seeks a ruling that Rule 3.804(d) concerning a maintenance tax surcharge is invalid.

Status: Inactive. Dismissed.

# Texas Workers' Compensation Insurance Facility v. Comptroller, et al. Cause #97-

03602

AG Case #97-700580

Maintenance Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Gene Storie

Filed: 03/25/97

Period: 1992-1995 Plaintiff's Counsel: Larry Parks

Amount: \$23,623,585 Long, Burner, Parks &

Sealey Austin

Issue: Whether the Facility may recover from the State the maintenance tax surcharge which it reimbursed to insurers.

Status: Plaintiff's amended motion for summary judgment filed. Hearing on cross motions held 03/07/01. Summary Judgment granted for defendants 05/25/01. Plaintiff filed notice of appeal. Record filed. Facility's brief filed 08/24/01. Argued 11/14/01. Affirmed for Appellee 01/10/02.

#### Union Pacific Resources Co. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #95-02334

AG Case #95-234473

Franchise Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Steve Rodriguez

Filed: 02/24/95

Period: 1988-1991 Plaintiff's Counsel: Mark W. Eidman Amount: \$1,432,851 Ray Langenberg

Ray Langenberg Scott, Douglass &

McConnico Austin

Issue: Whether various liabilities should be deducted from surplus as debt, including post-retirement benefits, long-term lease obligations, long-term contractual commitments, and liabilities from ongoing litigation. Also, whether the Tax Code is preempted by ERISA.

Status: Agreed Judgment granted 05/03/02.

#### Union Standard Insurance Co. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #GN003565

AG Case #011395308

Insurance Premium Tax; Asst. AAG Assigned: Blake Hawthorne

**Protest** 

Filed: 12/13/00 Plaintiff's Counsel: Jim Shawn Period: 01/01/93-12/31/96 Ron K. Eudy

Amount: \$216,572.39 Sneed, Vine & Perry

Austin

Issue: Whether "cash fund investments" are Texas investments under the property and casualty insurance premium tax in effect during the audit period. Whether the property and casualty insurance premium tax should be interpreted like the life insurance premium tax. Whether Plaintiff is entitled to detrimental reliance relief because its qualified investment was not challenged by the Department of Insurance. Alternatively, whether Plaintiff should recover interest because of delay by the Comptroller in reaching a decision.

Status: Agreed Judgment granted 04/15/02.

# Universal Frozen Foods Co., its Successors-in-Interest, Conagra, Inc. and Lamb Weston, Inc., and Universal Foods Corp. v. Sharp, et al. Cause #98-01956

03-01-00646-CV AG Case #98-901683

Franchise Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Christine Monzingo

Filed: 02/23/98

Period: 01/01/98-07/31/94 Plaintiff's Counsel: Ira Lipstet

Amount: \$613,229 Mary E. Haught

Jenkens & Gilchrist

Austin

Issue: Whether the "Additional Tax" in §171.0011 is illegal income tax because franchise tax can be imposed only on the privilege of doing business in Texas. Whether the Additional Tax violates other constitutional provisions. Whether a gain on the sale of one Plaintiff's stock from its parent to another company was improperly included in taxable earned surplus for the purpose of calculating the Additional Tax. Whether Rule 3.557(e)(10) is beyond the scope of §171.110 and therefore exceeds the Comptroller's authority. Whether Rule 3.557 is unconstitutional.

Status: Defendants' motion for summary judgment granted and Plaintiffs' denied on 10/16/01. Judgment for Defendants/Appellees affirmed by Third Court of Appeals on 05/16/02.

# *U.S. On-Line Cable v. Rylander, et al.* Cause #99-09021

AG Case #99-1198896

Sales Tax; Refund Asst. AAG Assigned: Scott Simmons

Filed: 08/05/99

Period: 10/01/94-07/31/98 Plaintiff's Counsel: James F. Martens

Amount: \$115,958.69 Stahl, Martens & Bernal

Austin

Issue: Whether Plaintiff is entitled to a sale for resale exemption on cable equipment it purchases from out-of-state vendors and users to provide cable service to apartment dwellers.

Status: Agreed Judgment granted 08/14/01.

#### Xerox Credit Corp. v. Rylander, et al. Cause #99-06232

AG Case #99-1172602

Franchise Tax; Protest Asst. AAG Assigned: Christine Monzingo

Filed: 05/28/99

Period: 1992-2000 Plaintiff's Counsel: James F. Martens Amount: \$2,290,821.39 Gilbert J. Bernal, Jr.

Stahl, Martens & Bernal

Austin

Issue: Whether transfers of accounts receivables were sales or pledges for federal income and franchise tax apportionment purposes. Whether non-Texas capital gains were improperly offset by capital losses inconsistently with apportionment provisions of the franchise tax. Whether taxpayer had constitutional nexus with Texas. Whether taxpayer was denied equal protection. Whether interest and penalty should be waived. Taxpayer also seeks declaratory judgment and attorneys' fees.

Status: Settled. Dismissed with Prejudice 04/04/02.

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